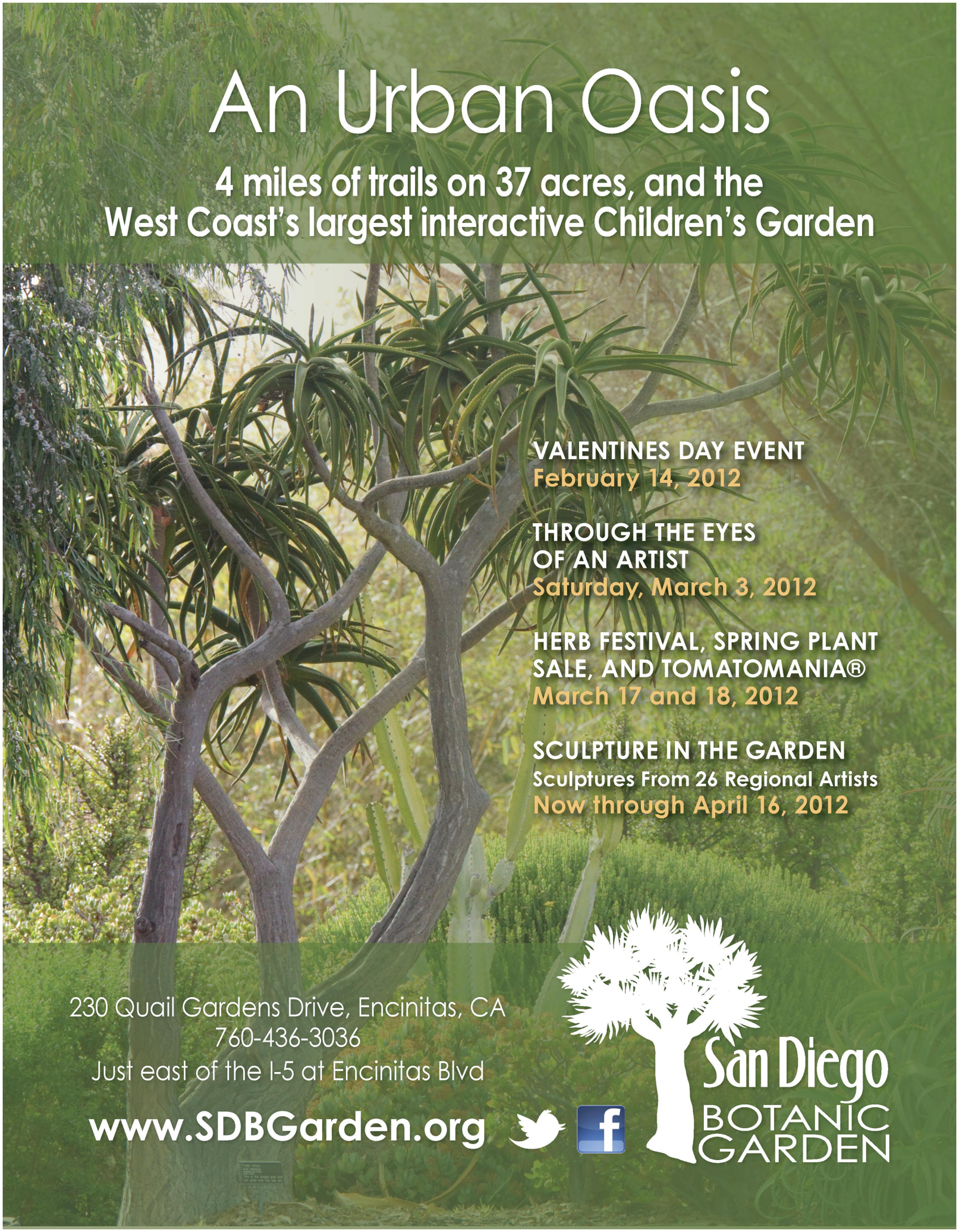
California GARDEN

January/February 2012 Volume 103 No. 1 $4.00

Resolved!

- To Garden for Birds
- To Garden Smart
- To Garden Sustainably

Plus: Heritage Roses in Julian . New Guide to Monthly Garden Tasks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THE MAGAZINE FOR HANDS-ON GARDENERS AND FLORAL DESIGNERS
January/February 2012, Volume 103, Number 1

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Berries are an important food source for birds like this mockingbird, perched in an American holly. Photo by Rachel Cobb

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President's Letter

I'm not one to make a lot of New Year's resolutions, but that recently changed. After taking a colorful fall vacation to the Grand Canyon and Flagstaff, Arizona, and coming home more refreshed than in many months, I resolved to plan more time in natural settings.

Studies show that fewer and fewer youths are heading outdoors each year. The epidemic of both adult and childhood obesity is constantly in the news. Visits to national parks were lower in 2010 than a decade earlier. The term "nature deficit disorder" was coined by San Diego's Richard Louv to describe children who were growing up indoors with video games instead of outdoors among trees and butterflies.

Our immediate past president, Nancy Carol Carter reminded us at our annual celebration for SDFA founder Kate Sessions that Kate advocated planting an oak tree for climbing on every elementary school campus. Kate knew that the well-being of children was dependent on a daily, direct connection to nature. Today, we know that such a radical idea likely would be described as too much of a risk.

In Richard Louv's newest book, "The Nature Principle," he calls out to adults too, writing that they too need nature as a balancing force. It isn't just our children who suffer from "nature deficit disorder;" adults also lack adequate time outdoors, in nature. Without this, our wellbeing suffers just as much – or perhaps more – than the well-being of our children.

If you are reading *California Garden*, you know this, but you may have found, as I did, that it takes resolve to keep nature in your daily life. I urge you to add "more time in nature" to your 2012 resolutions. Vow this year to visit Balboa Park more often with friends and family, to go at least once to a national park, to pause for a walk on the beach. Remember also to take the time daily to grow and enjoy your garden, however small. You will find that this investment in nature will pay off in a richer, healthier life for you and yours.

Best wishes from San Diego Floral and *California Garden* for a Happy New Year!

Sandra N. Dysart

Sandra Dysart
President

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SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

CLASSES

An Introduction to Ikebana Arrangements of the Ichiyo School of Ikebana

Date: February 23, 2012
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Cost: $20 ($15 for SDFA members)
Minimum number: 10 registered and paid by February 17. Class is limited to 10.

Students will receive an overview of the history of Japanese flower arranging, and learn the differences between Western flower arranging and Ikebana. They also will explore the two basic styles of moribana (low container) arrangements. The instructor will assist students in creating several style variations. A comprehensive handout and all floral materials are included. Containers and pin-holders will be provided for use in the class.

Students should bring floral scissors, a notebook, camera (optional), snack or lunch, and a sweater.

Instructor: Deborah Warriner
Deborah Warriner is president of the Ichiyo School of Ikebana, San Diego Chapter. She holds the rank of Master and has been teaching and demonstrating Ichiyo Ikebana for more than 20 years.

Making Better Plant Portraits: Moving From Auto To Manual

Date: March 1, 2012
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Cost: $20 ($15 for SDFA members)
Minimum number: 10 registered and paid by February 24

This class will introduce students to the mechanics of their camera, as well as help them see light and learn how to control it for better images. Compositional rules and the effective use of line and contrast will also be covered. The class will be divided into three basic parts: 1. A discussion of the attendees' photo submissions (no names will be used). 2. An hour-long power point to illustrate important photography concepts. 3. Hands on application of the photography concepts covered as students take their cameras outside to take photos.

Students should bring a camera. In addition, prior to class, each should email an 8-by-10 format image (higher resolution) to the instructor at frenchfoto@cox.net.

Instructor: Meredith French
Meredith French is an award winning professional photographer and regular contributor to *California Garden* magazine.

About SDFA classes:

Information: Call the Floral Association office at 619-232-5762 or visit www.sdfloral.org.

Registration and Payment: Online at www.sdfloral.org or mail the registration form with your check to San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado, #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684.

Cancellations: Classes lacking a minimum number of registrants are cancelled at least two days before the class meeting. Notification is made by phone or email and the fee is refunded.

Refunds: Fees are non-refundable except for a medical emergency, jury duty or when insufficient registration results in a class cancelation.

MEETING - FEBRUARY 21, 2012

Matt Ritter on California's Most Fascinating Trees

The San Diego Floral Association is proud to welcome botany professor and author Matt Ritter as its speaker for the first meeting of the new year. Members and the public are invited to attend this evening gathering on February 21 in Room 101 of Casa del Prado in Balboa Park. Admission is free.

The meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. with a catered dinner. Dinner is $15 per person and can be reserved by calling the SDFA office at 619-232-5762. The program will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Ritter's lecture will focus on the lives and stories surrounding some of the trees included in his new book, *A Californian's Guide to the Trees Among Us* (Heyday, 2011), a natural history and guide to urban and suburban trees around the state. California's agreeable Mediterranean climate and rich horticultural history have converged to populate towns and cities with innumerable different species of native and ornamental trees. Matt will use photographs, insight, and humor to share stories, cultivation and identification tips, and the natural history of California's common and exotic trees.

A book signing will follow. Books will be for sale for $20; cash, check or credit cards will be accepted. More information on the book can be found at http://web.me.com/mayritter/Ritter/Home.html

Matt Ritter studies cultivated trees and trees that escape cultivation. He has a bachelor's degree in microbiology and a Ph.D. in plant developmental biology. Currently he is a botany professor at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, and director of the plant conservatory there.

Dig in! News, tips, advice and products you can use

Resolved: Turn Over A New Leaf

Floral Members and Friends Share Garden Resolutions

By Colleen Dunn

The beginning of each year gives everyone a fresh start and this sentiment is never more appropriate than when it comes to gardening. January wouldn't be complete without the promise to clean out the potting shed or visit the landfill for mulch. In other words, it's time for New Year's resolutions.

Resolutions sometimes may be easier to make than to keep, but for some Floral Association members, it doesn't mean changing a thing. **Dale Rekus** has a 2012 resolution "to have my garden look as good this year as last."

Resolutions also can inspire us to try something different, and some members have bold plans in the works for the coming year. **Laura Eubanks'** exciting ambitions go beyond the garden: "To raise chickens! I want my own fresh eggs every morning. I also want to include the chicken droppings in my home compost as an added nitrogen boost." Another member has other feathered friends in mind: He plans to add ducks to his garden pond this year.

Staying ahead of weeds is a popular resolution. **Pat Forsberg** and **Linda Bresler** plan to "weed during the rainy months so the weeds won't go to seed and spread everywhere." Several members vowed to be better about pruning their trees.

Eco-friendly gardeners are resolving to help not only their gardens, but also the earth, with mantras like "more succulents and less water" and a determination to compost garden trimmings along with household waste. San Diego Horticulture Society past-president **Susi Torre-Bueno** recognizes the value of compost and says, "For 2012, I plan on adding a lot more compost to my garden, especially to the veggie beds."

Many SDFA members list succulents and a move toward native plants as intended remedies for water-hogging lawns. **Laura Eubanks**, a succulent expert, suggests a group of succulents as a replacement for a lawn and proposes that one "create movement in the garden by elevating your planting beds by mounding the soil." **Carol Mulcahy** says that she has allocated a third of her lawn for planting California native plants, and member **Karen Sharpe** made her resolution "with conservation in mind, simplify my garden while maintaining interest in all seasons of the year."

Photos: Rachel Cobb

Sharpe was not alone in promising more attention to San Diego's subtle seasons. **John Beaudry** is determined to "put as much enthusiasm into my vegetable garden in the summer and fall as I do in the spring when I have spring fever." With an appreciation for the seasons comes a commitment to using them properly. Master Gardener **Jay Davis** plans to "get plants and seeds in the ground during the recommended planting time frames" which can "make a big difference in germination rates and overall productivity."

By the same token, it is also important to harvest at the right time. Gardening expert **Nan Sterman** intends to "pick veggies promptly. For some reason, I am reluctant to pick ripe tomatoes, eggplants, and other summer vegetables. I work really hard starting them from seed, planting them out, growing them up and getting them to fruit. But harvest? They look so beautiful growing in the garden that I just can't bear to pick them!"

Finding pleasure in the beauty of gardens binds Floral Association members and encourages resolutions to do more. To enhance his garden, **John Blocker** plans to "plant old roses, especially heirloom varieties." And **Kathy Esty** vows to add "more plants to attract butterflies and birds." On the other hand, orchid expert **Bruce Berg** and gardening expert **Nan Sterman** share the goal of avoiding the temptation to buy plants for which they don't have space.

Photo: Aenne Carver

For Master Gardener **Jay Davis**, the challenge this year will be letting go. He wants to "become better at changing out plants that aren't performing well. Sometimes it's best to just recognize that you can get better results with less effort by changing the plant species or variety than by continuing to try to nurse one along that isn't suited to its space."

If you still need ideas for resolutions of your own, **Vincent Lazaneo**, head of the Master Gardener program, has a few suggestions for the reader in need of a new project this year. "Plant two or more varieties of the same vegetable to learn which does best in your garden, and use non-chemical and less-toxic pesticides like horticultural soap, oil, or Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) to control garden pests."

Whether your resolution leads to a revolution in your gardening habits or is abandoned by January 7, it never hurts to try something new.

–Colleen Dunn is a senior Communications Studies and English major at the University of San Diego who was selected for a 2011 California Garden *internship.*

SEE MORE RESOLUTIONS STARTING ON PAGE 10.

New Year Garden Resolutions

Dig in!

2015 Planning: Marking the Centennial of the Panama-California Exposition

It celebrated the completion of a ditch connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, it transformed San Diego and its big city park, and it earned the popular name of the Garden Fair. It was the Panama-California Exposition of 1915 and the San Diego Floral Association and *California Garden* were along for every step of the ride.

SDFA's founding president Alfred Robinson dreamed up the open air lath Botanical Building and Floral Association members grew and donated thousands of plants for the exposition grounds. *California Garden* urged its readers to beautify their gardens and to plant one million roses before exposition visitors came to town.

As San Diego plans events for 2015, we want to ensure that horticulture and park improvement are again prominent features of the festivities. The Horticulture Committee of the Friends of Balboa Park is coordinating plans to showcase the richness and diversity of our planted environment during the commemoration and invites ideas for specific events and projects. Watch for more information on how you and your garden club, plant society or other organization can be a part of the celebration (updates will appear on the Friends of Balboa Park website). *–Nancy Carol Carter*

"A Walk in Balboa Park 1915," San Diego Floral Style

Once again, the design expertise of some talented San Diego Floral Association members added a festive touch to the Friends of Balboa Park Millennium Luncheon in October. For the third year, the Friends requested help in decorating the large, empty fountain in the foyer of the Balboa Park Club for their annual event honoring Balboa Park volunteers. This year's 1915 luncheon theme got the full treatment from decorating chair Barbara Clark working with Kay Harry, Lucy Kramer, and Barbara Martin. Mannequins in period dress, along with an antique baby carriage and "big wheel" bicycle greeted luncheon guests. Fountain décor was completed using palms provided courtesy of Walter Andersen Nursery and 'Balboa Park' geraniums from Jim Zemcik. *–Nancy Carol Carter*

Kate Sessions Celebrated on a Rainy Saturday

Even a rainy morning, ever paralyzing to the average San Diegan, couldn't spoil the November birthday celebration of the "Mother of Balboa Park," the illustrious and evergreen Kate Sessions.

Attendees braved the weather to join The San Diego Floral Association, Friends of Balboa Park, and Save our Heritage Foundation at Marston House and Gardens. Hot apple cider and birthday cake were enjoyed over a history of Kate Sessions and speakers from all involved organizations.

Kate Sessions Elementary School in Pacific Beach was represented by two students who also briefly spoke and took a geranium plant back for their school garden.

Ranger Kim Duclo led a tour across the park and horticulturist Fausto Palafox guided visitors on a heritage tree tour. Marston House garden and home tours also were given.

It was a lovely morning of history and horticultural appreciation, and one can't help but think that Kate Sessions, like those who celebrated her, wouldn't have minded the rain. – *Colleen Dunn*

Dig in!

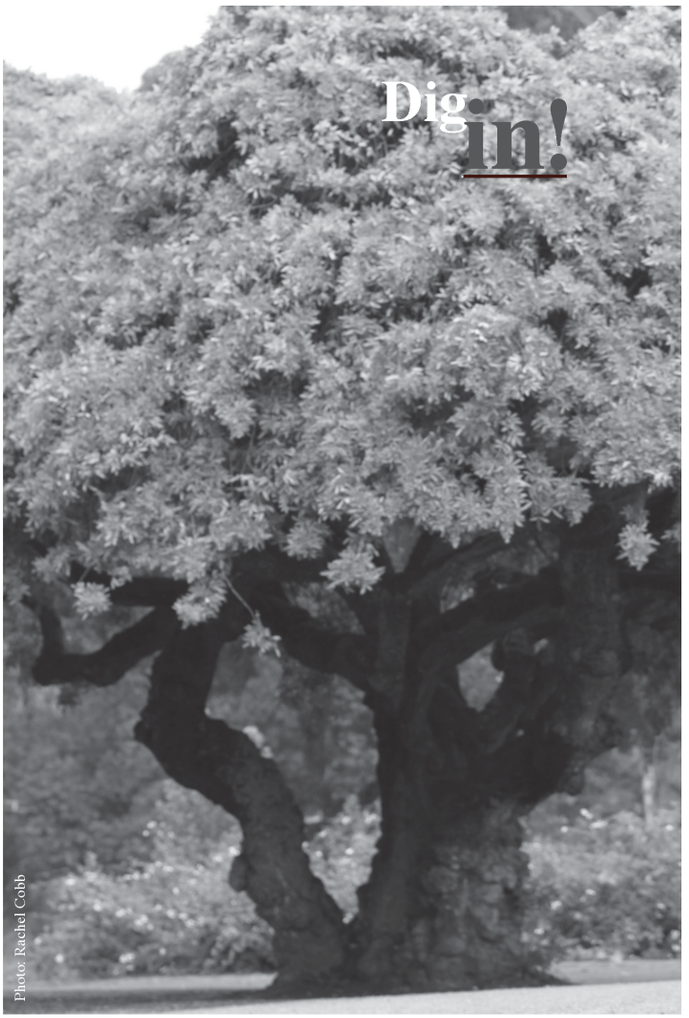

Photo: Rachel Cobb

Trees of Balboa Park:

Brazilian Pepper Tree

(*Schinus terebinthefolius*)

The Brazilian pepper tree grows 20-30 feet tall in this area. It has dark brown bark and twisted branches that cross at odd angles. The tree forms an umbrella shape as it ages. The pinnately compound leaves are stiff, glossy, aromatic and dark green. The leaflets are 2 ½ inches long and oblong in shape. There are 5-13 leaflets on each leaf. The specific epithet refers to the turpentine odor of the foliage.

Small, white flowers appear in the spring and the fruits develop throughout the summer. By fall they have turned bright red. Although the fruit is sometimes sold as a peppercorn, some references state it can cause allergies or gastric distress.

The Brazilian pepper tree grows throughout Balboa Park. The largest grove is in the Pepper Grove Playground area. From 1930 to 1955, Pepper Grove was the site of the Girl Scout Camp in Balboa Park. In 1955, they moved to their present location on Richmond Street. Kate Sessions is credited for popularizing this tree in the Southern California landscape. The tree sprouts from the roots and also re-seeds readily. It is listed as an exotic weed in California.

Excerpted from Trees and Gardens of Balboa Park *(2001; $25) and reprinted with permission from Kathy Puplava, Paul Sirois, the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department and Tecolote Publications.*

Did You Know...?

The San Diego Rose Society offers a free, hands-on rose pruning demonstration at the beginning of each year in Balboa Park's Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden (east side of Park Boulevard). Consulting Rosarians demonstrate how to correctly prune hybrid tea, floribunda, shrub, miniature and climbing roses. Participants who want hands-on practice then prune roses in the garden with an expert to answer questions and guide the work. This year's pruning will begin at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, January 7. Participants should bring pruning shears and long gloves. More information about this event is posted on the Rose Society website at www.sdrosesociety.org. – *Nancy Carol Carter*

Photo: Rachel Cobb

Rosa *'Blueberry Hill' in the Balboa Park Rose Garden.*

Remembering December Nights . . . With Thanks

More than 15,300 visitors got into the holiday spirit with a visit to the Floral Association's annual Festival of Trees at Balboa Park's December Nights celebration December 3 and 4, 2011. The theme, "Through the Eyes of Children" brought out the inner and very creative child in decorators. SDFA thanks to all who joined us and to those who created a tree or a floral design. "Best ever!" was the verdict of many. – *Nancy Carol Carter*

Trees and displays were created by:

Bonita Valley Garden Club
Chula Vista Garden Club
Crown Garden Club
Friends of Balboa Park
Grant School
Guild of Floral Arrangers, SDFA
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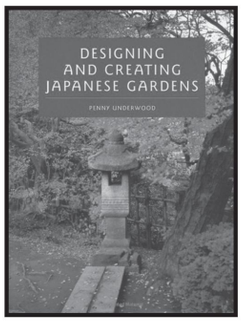
REVIEWS



Designing and Creating Japanese Gardens

By Penny Underwood

Crowood Press/Trafalgar Square Publishing
$45 (Hardback); 192 pages

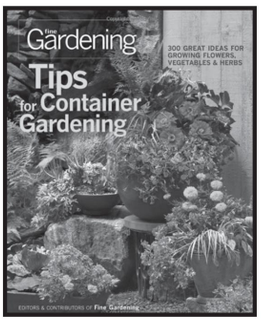
A rock representing a turtle or a tree pruned to suggest clouds…every element in a Japanese garden has symbolic meaning. Drawing on the myths and religious legends of the ancient Chinese, who long ago migrated to the mountainous islands known as Japan, these gardens build on an awareness of man's affinity with nature and reflect a tradition of landscapes based on interpreting the natural world through garden design.

Teien is the Japanese word for garden; it can also be interpreted to mean the contrasting opposites of wildness and control. The basics of Japanese garden design combine this concept with several others, including the interdependence of plants, rocks and water, and *Fusui*. *Fusui* encompasses a set of rules to guide the placement of elements in the garden to enhance energy flow. For example, there are "the three friends of winter": conifers to represent long life, flowers and colorful foliage as signs of rebirth, and bamboo, as a symbol of strength because it bends without breaking.

This book, with its many beautiful photos, is as much a total immersion into the history and philosophy of Japanese gardens as a three-week tour. The book is organized in short sections. You will find a survey of styles as they have evolved through time. These styles range from eighth century ritual sites to strolling gardens for meditation and sixteenth century tea gardens. The survey of styles ends with a discussion of modern landscapes that use elements in the garden to symbolize larger geographic features. For example, a stand of trees could symbolize a mountain range in the garden.

There also are chapters on design elements, such as plants, water, and hardscape, including teahouses and viewing platforms. The philosophical significance and Japanese terminology for each of the elements are explained, and they are accompanied by detailed how-to descriptions and line drawings. The author, who is a British landscape designer, provides a practical chapter on how to plan and maintain a Japanese garden in the West. The section on maintenance includes explicit instructions for the many distinctive types of pruning used in Japan.

This book is rich in specific information with a special treat at the end: an extensive armchair tour of Japanese gardens with an emphasis on those found in the ancient city of Kyoto.
– *Marge Howard-Jones*



Tips for Container Gardening: 300 Great Ideas for Growing Flowers, Vegetables & Herbs

By the Editors and Contributors of *Fine Gardening*

Taunton Press
$19.95 (Paperback); 208 pages

The book "Tips for Container Gardening" includes photographs, suggestions and solutions for container gardening. Every garden should have examples of these delightful mini gardens. This book is a valuable resource for designs, color, foliage, seasonal designs and edibles. Plus it is filled with answers to a great many questions about growing plants in containers.

The chapters include "Design," "Pots & Planters," and "Planting & Maintenance." "Pots & Planters" includes how to pick a pot, unusual containers, window boxes, hanging baskets and care. "Planting & Maintenance" discusses topics like soil, potting, watering, pruning and pests and other problems.

As you might imagine, the tips found within this book are concise and clearly described and they are accompanied by lovely illustrative photographs. This book could become one of the most used books in your garden library. Keep a lookout for your own copy, or better yet, go to the web at www.taunton.com and order one. You will be glad you did. – *Christie Wright*

New Member Benefit . . . Available January-March 2012

SDFA and SDHS have teamed up to offer members a sweet deal for the new year. Floral members who join the San Diego Horticultural Society in the first three months of 2012 will receive an extended 15 months of membership. Details in the upcoming newsletter and on the website: www.sdfloral.org.

Growing GROUNDS

Thanks to Early Pioneers, Julian is Home to Heritage Roses

By John Blocker

Thomas Christopher's book, *In Search of Lost Roses,* written in 1994, made celebrities of the Texas Rose Rustlers. The rustlers scoured the Lone Star State for roses planted by early settlers, roses that had been long lost from the nursery trade.

San Diego has its own rose rustlers, Jack and Mary Ann Olson. They have been mapping and identifying old roses in Julian since 1996. Many of these roses were bred more than a century ago and, as in Texas, were planted by early pioneers.

In 1983, the Olsons contacted Miriam Wilkins, founder of the Heritage Rose Society, seeking assistance in identifying a couple of roses they brought to California when they moved from Minnesota. Wilkins was never able to identify the roses, but she kept in contact with the couple and finally convinced them to establish a Heritage Rose Society chapter in San Diego. In 1989, the Olsons called a small group of rose lovers together at their house in La Jolla. They have been the leaders of the Heritage Rose Society of San Diego ever since, arranging garden tours and lectures for members.

At a Heritage Rose Conference at the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens in 1996, Fred Boutin, former botanist for the institution, drew a map for the Olsons showing locations of old roses in Julian. He spent weekends in the old mining town during the late 1960s and early '70s while employed at the Huntington. Since then, the Olsons have arranged several "rose rustles" in Julian to view and photograph the roses Boutin mapped, to see which roses were still there, to locate others, and perhaps to take a few cuttings home for rooting.

The Olsons arranged to have Fred Boutin lead a special tour of Julian's old roses last July. Boutin had not been there since the 1970s when he left the Huntington to move to his present home in Tuolumne. I met up with the group on a drizzly Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. on Julian's Main Street in front of the historic Bailey Bakery. In front of the building was a large spiny rose bush with fire yellow flowers. Boutin identified the rose as 'Persian Yellow'. He believed the rose was planted by Mrs. Bailey sometime between 1900 and 1920. The Bailey family had helped found the town during the 1870s.

Across the street at Vanona Jones' antique shop, Boutin pointed to a sprawling red rose bush. He could not determine its name, but he knew it was a hybrid perpetual. Hybrid perpetuals were a class of roses prized by Victorians for their use as cut flowers. This red rose could easily be another remnant of Julian's early history.

Photo: John Blocker

Heritage rose expert Fred Boutin points out some hybrid perpetual roses at Vanona Jones' antiques shop in Julian.

Boutin looked for an old purple Boursault rose along the side path at the Julian Pie Shop. No one saw this rose during this visit, although the Olsons reported seeing the flower growing into the shaded foliage of nearby trees on previous excursions. Boutin told us, "This rose is also known as 'Old Mining Town Boursault' and has been found in mining towns from New Mexico to California."

In front of the Western Art Gallery on Main Street, Fred looked for two roses 'La Sylphid' and 'General Allard' that he remembered from his weekends in residence. Both roses now are gone. 'La Sylphid', an early tea rose with light pink to salmon pink flowers, was bred in France in 1838. It is still available from specialty growers. "All 'General Allard' roses for sale today," Boutin told us, "came from a cutting I took from the rose planted here." Earlier, beside the Drury House, he had shown us a plant grown from a cutting of this rose that survives today. 'General Allard' has carmine-pink globular flowers. It was bred around 1835.

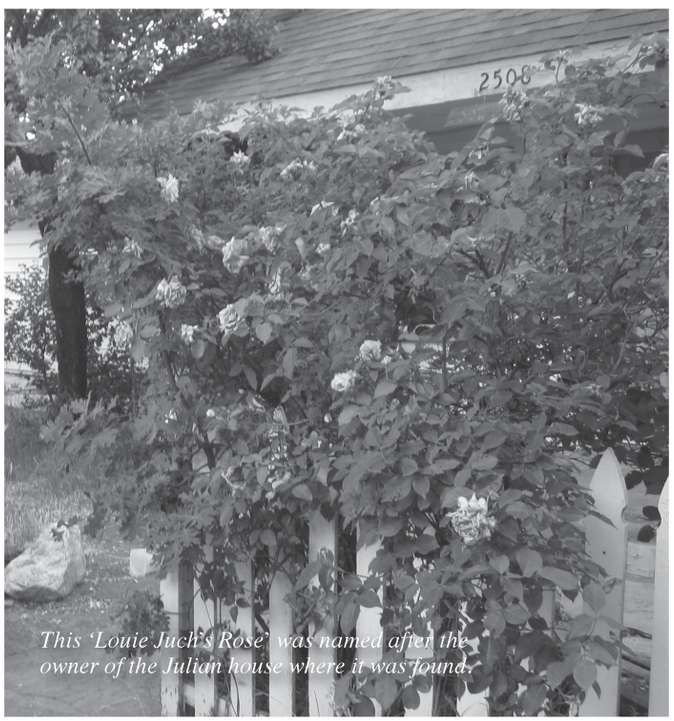
Behind the Julian Hotel, Boutin looked for another rose he remembered, but it also was gone. Jack and Mary Ann Olson said this rose had been a favorite of their members on the previous rose rustles. In 1996 Fred had identified it on the map as a hybrid china with a green center. Today it is known by its study name, "Ruth's

Steeple Rose." Other examples of this rose were found on the East Coast by Ruth Knopf of Charleston, South Carolina, and named to honor her. Knopf is a "Great Rosarian of the World" winner, an award sponsored by the Huntington Gardens. The rose had a tight, double magenta flower with a gnarly green eye in its middle. No one knows the origin or original name of the rose. It is categorized by rose lovers as a "mystery rose."

Jack Olson has rooted cuttings of the "Steeple" rose at his home in La Jolla. He hopes to make more cuttings to return the rose to Julian, possibly working with the Julian Garden Society to find an appropriate planting site. He also hopes to give one of the cuttings to a collection of "found roses" from around California at the Sacramento Cemetery Historic Rose Garden, so Julian will have a rose represented there. The Sacramento garden currently has no "found" Southern California roses.

Up the street from the Julian Hotel in the front yard of an old wood house is another of Julian's pioneer roses. Boutin took a cutting of this rose to the Huntington Gardens while employed there. It can still be seen in their heritage rose planting next to the Tea Room. They called it "Louie Juch's Rose," after the owner of the Julian house where it was found. Louie Juch's father, Arthur, was Julian's Apple King. The pale yellow blousy flower hangs on a nodding stem.

Boutin eventually determined that this rose is 'Souvenir de Pierre Notting'. It was bred by Soupert and Notting in Luxembourg in 1895 and not released for sale until 1902 after Notting's death. Boutin said, "Roses like this one were most likely purchased in San Diego and brought to the mountains." Around the turn of the twentieth century, Ernest Benard Jr., a French immigrant, owned a nursery in San Diego's Mission Valley. He imported roses from his family's nursery in Orleans, France, as well as from nurseries in California and Chicago. Records maintained at the San Diego History Center confirm Benard sold 'Souvenir de Pierre Notting' at his nursery.



This 'Louie Juch's Rose' was named after the owner of the Julian house where it was found.

Photo: John Blocker

If you want to take cuttings of these or other old roses, the Texas Rose Rustlers have established a strict code of conduct: (1) always ask permission before taking a cutting; (2) never damage the rose; and (3) always leave the plant healthy and viable.

– John Blocker worked with the agricultural industry in San Diego and has attended garden conferences and viewed gardens around the world during the past 20 years. From 1998 to 2008, he was on the board of the California Garden and Landscape History Society.

'General Allard' rose, bred around 1835, is still growing in Julian.

Photo: John Blocker

Resources

To inquire about the Heritage Rose Society of San Diego or to request a copy of the Jack and Mary Ann Olson map showing locations of roses brought by pioneers to Julian, please contact the author at johnblocker1325@sbcglobal.net.

Meet Two 'Rose Rustlers'

Miriam Wilkins

Miriam Wilkins founded the Heritage Rose Society in 1975 at the age of 55. Through Miriam's efforts, rose lovers created heritage rose societies all over the country. She is also credited with inspiring the formation of rose societies in Australia, New Zealand, England and France. Miriam began "The Celebration of Old Roses" in her home town of El Cerrito, a popular event held every year since 1980 the weekend after Mother's Day. In 2008 through the Huntington Gardens, Miriam Wilkins was presented the "Great Rosarian of the World" award. She died November 6, 2009, at 91. Her annual "Celebration of Old Roses" continues.

Fred Boutin

Fred Boutin is a well-known collector of "found" roses in California, many of which are no longer propagated or sold by the nursery industry. He donated roses to the Huntington Gardens Heritage Rose Collection to help establish their old rose collection. In 1992, Boutin donated more roses from his collection to establish the Sacramento Cemetery Historic Rose Garden. Volunteers now maintain the roses and have enhanced the collection. In 2009 the Sacramento garden was distinguished as one of the Great Rose Gardens of the World by the Great Rosarians of the World.

New Year Garden Resolutions

Resolved: To Take Steps For a Great Garden

Vow to take advantage of free resources, tough plants and hard-won wisdom

By Aenne Carver

Do you want your garden to be an enchanted place? Nobody wants to kill plants or to have an unattractive yard. Try these affirmative resolutions and become known for your green thumb.

1. This year join a garden club.

You will meet friendly gardeners and hear inspiring lectures. In addition to undertaking civic improvement projects, garden clubs are a wonderful source of pass-along-plants, and they are great places to get solid advice about what thrives in your microclimate.

2. Take advantage of free garden seminars at nurseries.

Throughout the year, many nurseries offer seasonal tips for your garden from experts. January brings an onslaught of rose seminars and many of them include hands-on pruning sessions. For a small investment of time, learn rose pruning techniques that otherwise could take years of trial and error to discover.

3. Get free advice by dialing the Master Gardeners' hortline.

Call The Master Gardener "Hortline" at 858-694-2860. From asparagus to zoysia, Master Gardeners know their stuff. Each Master Gardener has their own specialty, so you can get help even with rare plants and their specific problems.

4. Buy plants that are locally grown.

Many big-box store nurseries get transplants that are fertilizer junkies. These are plants that are addicted to a constant drip of fertilizer and to the ideal conditions only found in greenhouses with large staffs. If you put such a plant in your garden, it promptly suffers unsightly withdrawal and looks like it is on the brink of death. Instead, get a locally grown plant from an independent nursery that has not been mollycoddled. This ensures this plant will settle happily and readily into your garden.

Photo: Aenne Carver

Photo: Aenne Carver

Photo: Aenne Carver

5. Get to know your garden.

Understanding your garden sounds simple, however this process may take several seasons to complete. Pinpointing where the sun shines in the morning is easy, but locating the coldest spot in the winter, or discovering a pocket of clay in a garden bed takes time.

6. Repeat what works in your garden.

Reinventing your landscape wheel each year is difficult and takes too much time. Learn what works in your specific garden's microclimate and stick with it. Perhaps you have an irksome shady bed with clay soil? In warm months, plant impatiens; and then in cool months, plant foxgloves. Repeat this combination year after year, and avoid needless fretting.

7. Vow to use only tough plants in your garden.

As Felder Rushing wrote in his valuable book, *Tough Plants for California Gardens*, "Everyone is welcome to dig, bag, chill, spit, and turn somersaults to get a temperamental posy to do just right." But, he adds, when these tactics begin to frustrate you, switch to tough plants. To find the best ones for your garden, look at what flourishes in your neighbor's gardens and ask your friends to give you a start of their toughest plant.

8. Instead of focusing on flowers, emphasize the textures in your garden.

Why not buy a plant with intricate, gorgeous leaves rather than settling for one with boring foliage? Leaves offer so much variety: they can be thorny, ruffled, curly, ribbed, grassy, puckered, downy, fuzzy, jagged, ferny, shiny, or spiny. Add interesting leaves and your yard will always be a ten.

9. Plant things that bloom year round.

In our mild climate, this resolution is easier than it sounds. Cane begonias, Santa Barbara daises, abutilon, and feverfew are just a few plants that bloom all year long. With thoughtful choices, you can have something in flower every month year round. Fill your beds with reliable prolific bloomers, and watch your garden go from bland to beautiful.

10. Finally, don't be too hard on yourself.

My present garden thrives on the graveyard of plants I have killed. Each failure brings an eventual success, or, at least a better understanding of a plant or a space. Turn over a new gardening leaf this year without any self criticism. As Rudyard Kipling said, "Gardens are not made by sitting in the shade," so get out there and get gardening.

– Aenne Carver is a Master Gardener, writer and lecturer. She is also associate editor of this magazine. Visit her web site, www.thethriftygardener.com, for a schedule of her talks and to view her gardening blog.

New Year Garden Resolutions

New Year's Resolutions I Didn't Make

Some Things in the New Year Aren't Going To Change

By Lois Swagerty
For *California Garden* Magazine

They say that not to decide is to decide. If the same holds true at New Year's, then not to resolve is to resolve. Here's a list of resolutions I didn't make this year.

Lose weight. I figure if I haven't lost it by now, I'm not going to lose it by the usual methods. Fixating on food just makes me want to eat more, so I plan to fool myself by pretending I'm not trying to take off the pounds.

Eat better. I'm not going to do that, either. After all my years of avoiding hamburgers and French fries and exercising regularly, I still had a heart attack. From now on I'm letting medications work their magic.

Photo: Rachel Cobb

Plant a garden. Who am I kidding? My mother's gardening gene skipped a generation and all that's left are a few scraggly tomato plants by my trash cans, which amazingly, are host to the hugest hornworms in creation. I don't think this is what they mean when they talk about vermiculture. Not. For. Me.

Start a compost pile. I'm tired of feeling guilty every time I throw out a potato peel or rotten banana. Let's face it: I'm not going to become the dream gardener my neighbor is. From now on I'll just leave my garbage on her doorstep. Her worms will thank me.

Decorate the Christmas tree. Things worked out just fine with a tree adorned only with its pre-lit thousand points of light. When my kids had their annual wrapping paper battle on Christmas morning, flying paper wads and bows landed on the branches and looked quite fetching as recycled ornaments.

Clean the house. What—and rob myself of the joy of receiving a love letter written in hair on the shower wall? Not on your life. I wouldn't want to curb my husband's creativity any more than I'd want to strain my back scrubbing.

Talk with my son. He came and sat down next to me while I was writing this column and tried to get my attention. I lifted my chin to acknowledge him and went back to work. He smacked the arm of my chair with the flat of his hand. I took out my earplugs.

"Do you want to talk?"

"No," he said. "Do you want to toast me a bagel?"

"No."

See, we already communicate beautifully. That – and burping the ABC's. Did I mention he's 22?

You may think that my non-resolutions are really resolutions by default. I admit they smack a little of reverse psychology.

Our daughter picked up on the concept of reverse psychology at an early age. It worked well for a while. We could get her to do whatever we wanted by telling her not to do it. But soon the light dawned.

"Hey, you're reverse-psychologing me," she complained, before she even knew how to pronounce the words.

"If you can't say it, you're too young to know about it," we pointed out.

It was a sad day when she figured out our parenting strategy. From then on we had to use reverse-reverse psychology, which proved to be confusing. It took more effort on our part, but at least it made her stop and think a little longer. And she learned how to outsmart us, a skill that prepared her well for the teen years.

Maybe I am deceiving myself with my anti-resolution stance. But by refusing to make the perennial list, I bypassed the whole tedious cycle of resolving, failing and trying again.

Now I can relax and enjoy the new year.

– Lois Swagerty is a humorist and freelance writer from Carlsbad. Find her at www.loisswagerty.com.

New Year Garden Resolutions

Resolved: Six Ways to Change Your Gardening Life

By Mary James

Does your garden need to lose "weight?" Is it consuming too much of everything from water to chemicals, while producing too much waste? Do you want to get more out of limited space, including food you can eat?

Here are some resolutions designed to trim down and shape up gardens, with a goal of sustainability. This is a "diet" of degrees, where even small changes are important. Gardeners especially realize how these choices can have a big impact on the well-being of us all.

Resolved:
Less chemicals; more organic

WHY: "…Chemical fertilizers and pesticides harm the soil and environment, kill natural and beneficial organisms, and negatively impact the flavor and health-giving properties of food plants, whereas naturally occurring materials have the opposite effects." – Pat Welsh, Del Mar author

HOW: Eliminate synthetic fertilizers in favor of animal or vegetable fertilizers and compost. Use no chemical pest controls or use as few as possible. Recycle everything from grass clippings to pine needles into compost, green manure or mulch.

RESOURCE: *Pat Welsh's Southern California Organic Gardening* (Chronicle Books, $32.50).

Resolved:
Not just horizontal, but also vertical

WHY: "Make the most of small garden spaces by growing vertically. Not only will 'gardening up' allow you to grow more in less space, but thoughtfully placed vertical elements will enhance any garden, whether large or small." – Susan Morrison, Bay Area garden designer, Master Gardener and author

HOW: Use a variety of handsome supports for vining vegetables to climb up. Create a decorative or food-producing living wall with felt pocket panels or modular trays. Use hanging baskets to grow flowers, herbs and vegetables with a trailing habit.

RESOURCES: *Garden Up!* by Rebecca Sweet and Susan Morrison (Cool Springs Press, $19.95) and Vertical Garden Solutions, www.verticalgardensolutions.com.

Photo: Nan Sterman

Rebecca Sweet, co-author of Garden Up!, turns a fence into a focal point with a collection of her grandparents' vintage tools.

Photo: Rebecca Sweet

Resolved:
Less pesticides, more IPM

WHY: "Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an effective and environmentally sensitive approach that … manages pest damage by the most economical means, and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment." – Environmental Protection Agency

HOW: Evaluate your landscape to be sure the right plant is in the right place. Learn about common garden pests and non-toxic methods of control. Use pesticides only as a last resort.

RESOURCES: San Diego Master Gardener Hortline, 858-694-2860; UC IPM Online, www.ipm.ucdavis.edu.

Resolved:
Less waste, more compost

WHY: "Yard trimmings and food scraps, taken together, make up one of the largest components of residential discarded resources. Backyard composting is one of the most economical and effective methods of recycling these organic materials." – Solana Center for Environmental Innovation

HOW: Visit the compost demonstration site at the San Diego Botanic Garden in Encinitas or the Water Conservation Garden in Rancho San Diego. Buy a compost bin, taking advantage if possible of local government subsidies, or build your own. Get free compost from the City of San Diego. Attend a free composting workshop when one is scheduled in your neighborhood.

RESOURCES: Solana Center for Environmental Innovation, www.solanacenter.org.

Resolved:
Fewer ornamentals, more edibles

WHY: "With all my heart, I believe that growing edibles is a connection to our vital being, hands in the soil, planting seeds, marveling at how they grow and glorying in that first juicy, sun-warmed fruit of the season." – Rosalind Creasy, author and edible landscape designer

HOW: Learn the planting times for cool season and warm season vegetables here at http://mastergardenerssandiego.org/resources/plantingguides/index.php. Visit seed sites like Renee's Garden to shop for varieties suited for container growing. Shop at area nurseries for bare-root fruit trees suited to our mild climate.

RESOURCES: *Western Garden Book of Edibles* by editors of Sunset magazine (Sunset, $24.95), *The Edible Front Yard* by Ivette Soler (Timber Press, $19.95) and *Edible Landscaping* by Rosalind Creasy (Sierra Club Books, $39.95)

Resolved:
Less water, more drought-tolerant

WHY: "Californians chronically overwater our gardens. According to one estimate, Southern Californians water their gardens with the equivalent of 84 inches of rainfall each year. That is as much rain as falls in the Amazon jungle … Overwatering isn't good for plants… for your bank account…or for our state's limited water resources." – Nan Sterman, San Diego author

HOW: Grow natives and other plants suited to a Mediterranean-style climate of mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers. Invest in the latest irrigation technology and change watering schedules to reflect the seasons. Zone plants in the garden according to water needs.

RESOURCES: *California Gardener's Guide Vol. II* by Nan Sterman (Cool Springs Press, $24.95), *California Native Plants for the Garden* by Carol Bornstein, David Fross and Bart O'Brien (Cachuma Press, $27.95) and *Designing with Succulents* by Debra Lee Baldwin (Timber Press, $29.95).

Photo: Ivette Soler

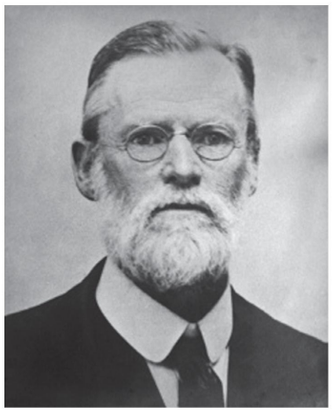
Artichokes in flower form a stunning floral arrangement.

ROOTS

Profiles in Horticultural History

By Nancy Carol Carter

Charles Russell Orcutt



Facts about the life and work of naturalist and botanical collector Charles Russell Orcutt are well documented. He is recognized for important foundational contributions to the San Diego Natural History Museum. A sense of the man himself is harder to pin down. He is described as an eccentric, a boastful egomaniac, a neglectful husband and father, and a "disreputable scoundrel."

At the same time, Orcutt was a life-long striver. He founded and edited more than 30 natural history journals. He was an entrepreneur who started multiple businesses and was the miner behind the first documented find of the distinctive pink San Diego County tourmaline that became a favorite of Chinese royalty. An assiduous and courageous naturalist, he hoped to make important contributions to science. He amassed a huge collection of natural history material, including plants, mollusks, fossils, birds, lizards and minerals and dreamed of establishing the West American Museum of Nature and Art as a permanent location for his treasures.

Orcutt was born in Vermont during the last year of the American Civil War. When he was 15, his family moved to San Diego, arriving in 1879 and purchasing land near the ruins of the Mission San Diego de Alcalá. His father, Heman [sic] C. Orcutt, always had an interest in horticulture, both reading and contributing to professional journals on plants and agriculture. In San Diego he started one of San Diego's earliest nursery businesses. His Orcutt Seed and Plant Company was just 10 years older than the first area nursery business founded by Josephus M. Asher in 1869.

Charles Orcutt did not receive any formal schooling, but was educated by his literate father and a mother who wrote and published poems, literary prose and articles in medical journals. His early interests in science and the natural world were encouraged. Relocating to San Diego from New England provided the young Orcutt with a dramatic lesson in regional influences on nature. He collected strange new plants and helped to stock his father's nursery. He developed a life-long interest in seashells and began a collection that would grow into the thousands.

Inspired by a Botanical Great

When Orcutt was 18 years old, an unpromising job as wagoner and expedition dogsbody turned out to be life-changing. In 1882 he accompanied his father, botanist Marcus Jones, and others on a plant-hunting trip to Baja California lead by a scientific celebrity. Charles Christopher Parry established his reputation decades earlier with botanical reports from the United States-Mexico Boundary Commission, including the finding and naming of the Torrey Pine. Parry also was a kindly gentleman. He took an interest in the eager and curious young Charles Orcutt and instructed him in the proper methods of botanical collecting. In a later account of this trip, the famously cranky Marcus Jones complained that Parry's attention caused Orcutt to swell like a toad with self-importance and to neglect his work around the camp.

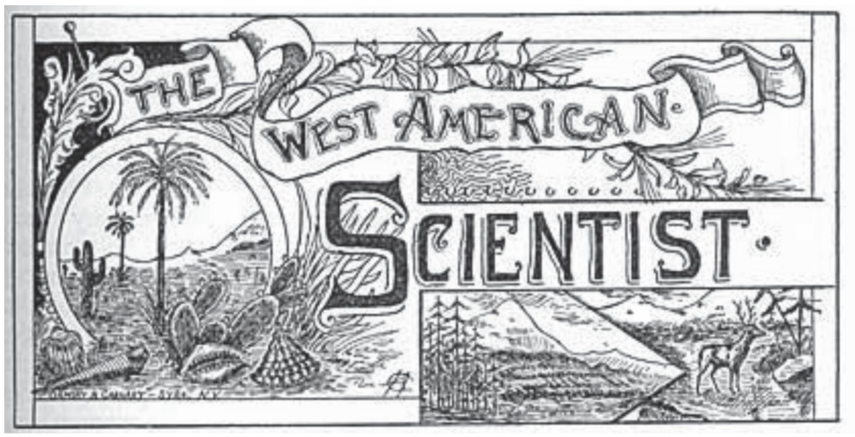
Orcutt was inspired to make collecting his life's work. He made more expeditions and found his way to the San Diego Society of Natural History. He became an active member, eventually serving on the Board of Directors. Contemporary recollections of his participation include references to his eccentric and boastful personality. He donated to the Society's collections and began sending his finds to leading scientists and institutions, always in the hope of being recognized for an important natural history discovery. Some of his specimens were new to science and were named after him, but he undermined his credibility with sloppy field practice and haphazard record-keeping.

When he was 20 years old, Orcutt founded the first of many journals, *The West American Scientist*. It was a way to present his field work to the world and to report scientific news on the west coast. From 1884 until 1919 Orcutt wrote and published this often amusing, occasionally rambling and sometimes scientifically useful periodical, although never on a regular schedule. Early in 1885, he began calling the publication the "official organ of the San Diego Society of Natural History," although the degree to which this was sanctioned by the Society is unclear. That same year, Orcutt published a *Flora of Southern and Lower California: A Checklist of the Flowering Plants and Ferns*.

A Disordered Life

Charles Orcutt met his older and very accomplished future wife in Pasadena. Olive Eddy was the first woman to earn a medical degree from the University of Michigan Homoeopathic

Medical College. After graduation she joined her sister in California to partner in the publication of *Out of Doors for Women*, a monthly gardening magazine, and to establish a medical practice. She was 35 at the time of her marriage in 1892 and gave birth to the first of three children the next year. Olive Eddy Orcutt practiced medicine in San Diego for many years and outlived her husband by more than two decades.



Orcutt continued his compulsive travels and collecting, selling items when possible to support his growing family. His passion could not provide a livelihood, although he managed to get some commissions from private nurseries abroad and sold to herbariums in the United States. The volume of commercial botanical collecting done during this period boggles the mind and raises questions about sustainability. One report has Orcutt shipping three tons of cacti out of central Baja California in a single season.

He scrambled to earn money by founding new journals and with a variety of business ventures. In November 1891 he had entered a partnership with George Leaver of the California Seed, Bulb & Plant Company of Los Angeles. He ran the C.R. Orcutt Publishing House and the Orcutt Real Estate Agency, and owned several pieces of property in prime San Diego locations. These were gradually sold off to support his expeditions in Texas, Arizona and Mexico and for family necessities. Throughout this period, Orcutt was shamelessly self-promoting in the local press. The *San Diego Union* has frequent inserts about his travels, what he is shipping and selling, and his many new journals. The value and size of his collections are touted in a November 16, 1887, article claiming a specimen count of 100,000.

Later Orcutt managed the Hotel Strand in La Jolla, but seemed to be more interested in the nearby tide pools than in the hotel business. Despite all these undertakings, by most accounts the family finances were always strained and heavily reliant on Olive Orcutt's earnings as a doctor.

Ambition Denied

Although Orcutt sparked public interest with his idea for a museum, after World War I he gave up the idea of creating his own institution. He offered his collections to the San Diego Society of Natural History in 1918. Various problems complicated the transfer, including the ungainly size of the collection, the lack of a comprehensive inventory, the presence of useless junk among desirable acquisitions, and the degraded condition of some specimens due to improper handling at the time of collection or poor storage. When the museum hesitated, Orcutt was disappointed, hurt and then angry that the value of his collection was being questioned. Negotiations became testy and prolonged. Meanwhile, Orcutt exasperated the Natural History Society by selling choice items from his "gift" anytime he had an opportunity.

Orcutt was away from San Diego for long periods of time and traveled further afield. He ventured to Jamaica, maintaining a home there. The Smithsonian Institution accepted many of his specimens and in 1929 provided funds for Orcutt to work in Haiti. Although late in coming, he was elated by this recognition and financial support. After seven months in that difficult climate, however, Orcutt was physically exhausted and unwell. He died in Haiti in August 1929.

Orcutt never saw the final placement of his collections, but after he died, the Museum of Natural History worked to find his scattered storage areas and paid his wife to arrange shipping of items from remote locales. Still, there is no single Charles Russell Orcutt Collection of the kind he envisioned and expected to immortalize his scientific contributions.

The highly energetic and scattered Charles Orcutt perhaps doomed his own ambitions through an inability to focus. He did serious work in gemology, shells, and botany, particularly with cacti, but was not sufficiently disciplined or trained to routinely employ the exacting methodology of the best scientists. One California botanist described him as a "zealous worker with poor judgment." Another scholarly assessment places Orcutt "at the fringe of the scientific world," but recognizes the degree to which his passionate collecting added to the scientific record and enriched and energized the pursuit of natural history in San Diego.

– Nancy Carol Carter is a San Diego Floral Association volunteer with a special interest in horticultural history. She also is associate editor of this magazine.

Charles Russell Orcutt

Author, publisher, natural history collector, botanical explorer

Born: April 27, 1864; Hartland, Vermont

Died: August 25, 1929; Jeremie, Haiti

DIG DEEPER WITH:

Anne D. Bullard, "Charles Russell Orcutt, Pioneer Naturalist," *Journal of San Diego History* 40:2 (Winter 1994).

"The Dry Quill" [family history blog by a great grandson of C.R. Orcutt], at http://larryorcutt.wordpress.com/2010/10/05/the-orcutt-kids-2/

NOW IS THE TIME

Winter plant care early in the new year brings gardens to life in spring

Edited by Aenne Carver

Gardening Checklist

January

Buy and plant bare-root roses, trees, vines, and berries.

Purchase cymbidiums in bloom so you get the flower color you want.

Feed cool-season flowers (but not wildflowers).

Apply dormant spray to deciduous fruit trees and roses.

Protect tender plants from frost.

Start a garden notebook this year.

February

Buy and plant azaleas, camellias, clivia, deciduous magnolia trees and gerbera daisies.

Add more cool weather vegetables and herbs.

Cut back woody and overgrown perennials.

Prune kiwi vines, pyracantha, canna, ginger, ivy, Sprenger asparagus fern and cane begonias.

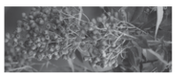
Make a compost pile.

DROUGHT-TOLERANT PLANTS

Cactus and Succulents

Laura & Don Starr, The Grateful Shed

- Protect against snail damage by using natural barriers like copper tape or sharp sand. More info is at http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/QT/snailsslugscard.html.
- If weather has been rainy, don't leave potted plants sitting in water. If dry, keep plants lightly watered.
- Groom to avoid waterlogged material in and around plants.
- Beware of frost and hail; cover or move plants if possible.
- Fertilize succulents if you want to (we don't) but use a 20-20-20 product at half-strength. Be sure soil is well-watered before and after application.
- Check light exposure. If plants are leggy and pale, move them to more sunlight. Plants will tolerate southern exposure in winter.
- Native succulents, like dudleya, enjoy these cool rainy months. We have found dudleya grows well in pots tipped slightly to the side for better drainage. Never fertilize these plants.
- Blooming now: bulbine, kniphofia, aeoniums and schlumbergera.
- Winter growers such as aeonium, kalanchoe, schlumbergera and sempervivum can be brought inside into bright light for up to two weeks. Deadhead any spent flowers.
- Keep succulent wreaths or holiday topiaries well watered, and move them outside after the holidays.
- Don't fertilize, but pinch tips if needed to maintain the design's shape.



Native Plants

John Noble, Coastal Sage Gardening

- There is still time to plant wildflower seeds, like California bluebells, Chinese houses, farewell-to-spring, mountain garland, goldfields and California poppy.
- Now is the best time to plant California native plants.
- Dig a hole and fill with water several times, amend soil slightly and plant the root ball so that it is an inch or two higher than the existing soil level. Cover with soil to create a little mound. Water again with a spray.
- Hose down a native garden once a week until the rainy season kicks in.

Plant Profile: Regal Geraniums

New varieties bloom year round with very little care

By Jim Zemcik

One nice thing about living in San Diego is that the climate is perfect for the Martha Washington or regal group of geraniums. The fancy, almost azalea-like blooms and the plant's overall resistance to pests have made them a growing favorite here.

For more than 50 years, their popularity was driven only by the blooms. Some shunned these older varieties because of their leggy habit, relatively short bloom period and tendency to attract whiteflies. They also needed an extended cold snap to bloom prolifically. Additionally, they would stop blooming if they got too dry and did not recover and re-bloom until the following year.

All of that has changed. Several years ago, English breeder Ernest Walters developed the first regal geraniums that were more compact, more floriferous and longer blooming. In this country that work was improved on by David Lemon of Lompoc. He successfully extended the range of blooms, was able to overcome the need for a cold snap to initiate heavy blooming and all but eliminated the whitefly problem. Best of all, the compact plants he produced tended to bloom 12 months a year in our climate.

These plants do not do well in areas with high heat and humidity, which encompasses much of the world. However, they thrive in a mild Mediterranean climate like that of Southern California and, interestingly, in Alaska where the extremely long summer days result in absolutely remarkable plants.

These newer varieties are the type used in Balboa Park for the planting in front of the Organ Pavilion. They were chosen for their ability to perform with minimal maintenance including low fertilization and minimal to no pest control.

Pruning for these plants is different from that for the older varieties. A complex, three-stage fall pruning process is required to keep old regals compact and abundantly blooming. The newer varieties by and large don't require pruning. However, they do require the removal of bloom growth. Some complain that they require more deadheading because they bloom so prolifically. I think that's a small price to pay.

By virtue of the way plants are propagated and sold, the newer varieties may not be available everywhere and then only in spring and summer. The industry has changed. Instead of field growing stock plants, large growers are expanding their purchase of plant plugs from large international propagators. As a result these plants are becoming more common. However, the large growers like Grand View Geranium Gardens in Carson do not deliver to San Diego, so often the only plants available at local nurseries are the older varieties.

To be sure you are getting a new regal, look at the plant label. For example, if the tag shows the plant is an Oglevee/Ecke, Dummen or PAC plant, it is one of the newer varieties. The Oglevee/Ecke varieties tend to have much, much larger blooms than the others.

Plants introduced by SOHO's Geranium George Project are all the new, larger flowered varieties as well. They are usually available at the Marston House Museum Gift Shop in Balboa Park. Those varieties include the ever popular 'Kate Sessions' and the spectacular 'Balboa Park 2015'.

– Jim Zemcik is an internationally known geranium hybridizer who is very active in working with geranium plantings in Balboa Park.

Geraniums and Martha Washington — NO LIE

The most famous example of President George Washington's honesty is just fiction. Mason Locke Weems invented the story of Washington not lying to his father about cutting down a cherry tree for a biography published soon after the first president's death. This legend has been passed around until most everyone today believes it.

Accordingly, it should not be a surprise that the Martha Washington geranium name also is based on rumors and folk lore. In England, this hybrid was known as a regal geranium (*Pelargonium* x *domesticum*), but when this tender plant came across the pond it was renamed Martha Washington. There is speculation that patriotic Americans prevented even geraniums from being referred to in English terms. Today, this geranium is still known as both regal and Martha Washington. *– Aenne Carver*

EDIBLES

Herbs

Charlotte Tenney, Herbal Educator for
Trees for Health Garden in Balboa Park

- Plant seeds for kitchen spices like dill, oregano, parsley.
- If snails, slugs and sow bugs are a problem, surround herb seedlings with a dusting of diatomaceous earth so that they have a fighting chance.
- While you are planting, improve the soil with organic amendments such as worm castings, kelp and compost or Epsom salts.

Herbal health tip:
Use oregano and/or marjoram leaves for tea to ease congested lungs. Mix olive leaves into the tea blend to stimulate the immune system.

Fruit Trees And Vines

Vincent Lazaneo, Urban Horticultural Advisor,
UC Cooperative Extension

- Finish pruning dormant deciduous fruit trees and vines before leaf buds start to grow.
- Prune evergreens just before or when new growth begins.
- Spray dormant deciduous trees and vines with horticultural oil before buds begin to open to control overwintering insect pests.
- Spray dormant peach and nectarine trees with a fungicide. See UC Pest Note on Leaf Curl, at www.ipm.ucdavis.edu for treatment information before buds begin to open to control peach leaf curl.
- Paint the tree trunks with whitewash to protect the bark from sunburn injury (use equal parts water and white interior flat latex paint).
- Provide frost protection for young citrus and other subtropical fruit trees.
- Apply a nitrogen fertilizer when new growth begins.

Vegetables

Vincent Lazaneo, Urban Horticulture Advisor,
UC Cooperative Extension

- Continue planting cool-season vegetables where frost is not likely. Cool-season vegetables include beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, endive, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, peas, potatoes (white), radishes, rutabagas, and turnips.
- Use floating row cover fabric on seeded and transplanted crops to accelerate their growth.
- Plant dormant crowns of artichoke, asparagus and rhubarb.
- Plant seeds of medium day-length onions such as White Sweet Spanish, Stockton Yellow Globe and Italian Red during February for bulbs in late summer.
- Order seeds of warm season vegetables for planting in the spring. Check online garden catalogues to learn about new varieties.
- Remove and compost old tomato vines and other summer crops to control diseases and pests.
- Do not apply wood ashes to garden soil. They are very alkaline and high in salts.

Landscape Trees

Robin Y. Rivet, ISA Certified Arborist/Urban Forester

- Fresh-cut holiday trees are sustainable and recyclable. Buy and discard yours locally where possible. Use lopped off fir limbs to make excellent surface mulch.
- If you had a live holiday tree indoors, get it in the ground quickly.
- Plant, deciduous saplings now to take advantage of our rainy season.
- In a dry winter, monitor all trees (even natives) for adequate soil moisture and deep water as needed.
- To save money, order bare root, ornamental, trees soon. These will have healthier roots than container-bound trees.

Photo: Rachel Cobb

FAVORITE FLOWERS

Camellias

Sharon Lee, San Diego Camellia Society

- Check nurseries for camellias in bloom. January through March are the prime bloom months. A few favorites are: 'Silver Waves', with large pure white and a sunburst of stamens; 'Katie', a big salmon-rose semi-double; and 'Kramer's Supreme', a fragrant, turkey-red, full peony-form.
- Transplant, pot, re-pot or bare-root and repot now since camellias are still in their dormant season (October through March).
- When planting, whether in the soil or in a pot, plant 1-inch higher than soil level. Camellias don't like their crowns covered. Also, remember some camellias like shady spots and some like sun. Check the label on the plant for light needs.
- Continue to remove all but the largest bud where bud clusters exist. Disbudding provides larger but fewer blooms.
- Prune out branches that might prevent buds from opening.
- Pick up blooms that fall to the ground to prevent petal blight.
- Fertilize in January with 0-10-10 for larger buds. Note that fertilizing this late in the season may produce only marginal results. Add an iron supplement to grow dark green leaves and gypsum to help prevent leaf tip burn.
- Maintain a regular watering regimen. Don't let a plant dry out, but if it rains heavily, cut back on supplemental watering.
- Be sure to monitor plants under eaves and canopies where the rain doesn't always reach.

Geraniums

(*Pelargonium)*

Jim Zemcik, San Diego Geranium Society

- Even though it may rain, water potted plants on a regular schedule. The foliage may cover pot's surface and the soil may not get wet. Allow excess water to drain away. Keep potted plants out of prolonged rain.
- Continue feeding potted geraniums with a water soluble fertilizer. Use at one-third to one-half of the label's recommended strength. Apply at 30 day intervals. As an alternative, foliar feeding is acceptable at recommended label strength and recommended frequency. Feed plants in the ground with granular 16-16-16 as directed.
- Keep up a pest control and disease prevention program.
- Guard against geranium rust, bud worm and aphids Systemic insecticides are best for pelargoniums. There are several combination products with both an insecticide and fungicide. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Top pinch any plants that were not previously cut back. When the stems start to leaf out, cut them back to one-half the stems length.
- Protect plants from freezing.
- Rotate potted plants to keep them well shaped.

Orchids

Bruce Berg, President of San Diego County Orchid Society

- Many orchids, especially ones that drop their leaves in November and December, go dormant or rest now. In general that means less water and fertilizer.
- Some of the prettiest orchids this time of year are the cymbidiums. Now, many will have new spikes that need to be staked to support and to show them off.
- Expect cymbidiums to bloom December thru March.
- *Dendrobium kingianum* set flower spikes now and will bloom into March. When you see flower spikes start, give these plants more water.
- Other orchids show new growth that produces flowers in March and April. These plants need light fertilizing and water.
- See and buy these and other orchids at the San Diego Orchid Society Winter Show and Plant Sale on January 21 and 22, in Casa del Prado, Balboa Park.

Roses

Roger English, San Diego Rose Society

- Now is the time to renew roses by pruning established plants. It is also a good time to plant new bare-root roses.
- Prune floribundas, shrubs, miniatures and mini-floras from the beginning to the end of January.
- Prune hybrid teas and climbers anytime from mid-January to Valentine's Day.
- Improve your pruning skills the first Saturday of January at 9:30 a.m. at Balboa Park's Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden on Park Avenue. American Rose Society Consulting Rosarians first will demonstrate the best technique. Attendees then prune a rose bush with guidance as needed. Bring gloves and pruners.

- After pruning established roses, apply organic rose food and then a three inch layer of mulch to prevent weeds.
- When there are three inches of new growth, begin treatment to prevent powdery mildew.
- Start feeding established roses when there is six inches of new growth.
- For questions go to www.sdrosesociety.org, and click on *Ask an Expert*. Then, send an email to the consulting rosarian coordinator.

SPECIALTY PLANTS

African Violets

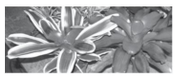
Barbara Conrad, Carlsbad African Violet Society

- Look for the 2011 introduction 'California Victory'. This white violet has upper petals marked with purple and the entire flower is edged with green.
- Try spritzing liquid kelp on violets, at one tablespoon per gallon water, to increase the growth of leaves.
- Aim to keep room temperatures between 60 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit because violets are fussy about hot and cold.
- Use a sable brush or a q-tip and go over the leaves to remove dust.
- Remove dead blossoms and leaves which can attract pests.

Begonias

Michael Ludwig, American Begonia Society, Margaret Lee Branch

- Inspect plants during the rainy season. Begonias may get rot if their roots stay cold and wet. Make sure plants in containers are not where a cascade of rain or gutter overflow hits them because this washes away potting soil and exposes roots.
- Trim cane and shrub begonias to encourage next year's growth. Leaf axils (where the leaf joins the stem) with bloom scars won't send out new branches so trim below them for fuller plants.
- Remove dead foliage from plants and spray with fungicide at signs of mildew.
- Keep snails and slugs under control and look plants over for aphids, mealybugs and scale.
- Buy and start tuberous begonias in February for summer.



Bromeliads

Andy Siekkinen, San Diego Bromeliad Society

- Cut back on watering during the cool weather. Remember to collect rainwater for dry spells and for summer.
- Keep the center cup of bromeliads filled with fresh water.
- With the sun at a lower angle, there is less chance of leaves burning, so you can transition plants into stronger light.
- Keep an eye on the weather forecast. When frost is predicted, bring sensitive plants inside or cover with a freeze cloth. (Old sheets work well; don't use plastic.)

Ferns

Kathie Russell, San Diego Fern Society

- When rainfall is insufficient, water ferns gently but do not over water during this cooler season.
- Trim off dead fronds, but not the green ones.
- Most small leaf *Adiantums* (maidenhair ferns) can be cut back completely.
- Other types of ferns become dormant and will show new growth in late winter or spring.
- Fertilize *Platyceriums* (staghorn ferns) with high nitrogen fertilizer at half strength, since they are starting to grow.
- This is a good time to remove and remount *Platycerium* pups.

Plumeria

Kim Schultz, Plumeria Society

- If frost is forecast, protect plants from cold. Placing sheets, burlap, tube socks, foam pipe insulation, or even a string of lighted non-LED Christmas lights on the tips of the plants can protect them.
- Top-off plants with as much mulch as possible to protect them from cold and rain.
- Do not fertilize. Do not water plants. Make sure all potted plants are under cover or are propped up to allow excess water to run off. Do not allow plumerias to sit in standing water, ever.
- Keep the area around the plant clean to prevent disease.
- Do not remove the inflorescences (flower spikes) and seed pods. The inflorescence will usually bloom before new leaf growth.
- If seed pods are large enough and have split from one to two, cover each one with a netting material. This will prevent wind dispersal of the seeds when a pod ripens.

Plant Profile: Cymbidium Orchids

These Winter Wonders Bloom Outdoors Now Through March

By Bruce Berg

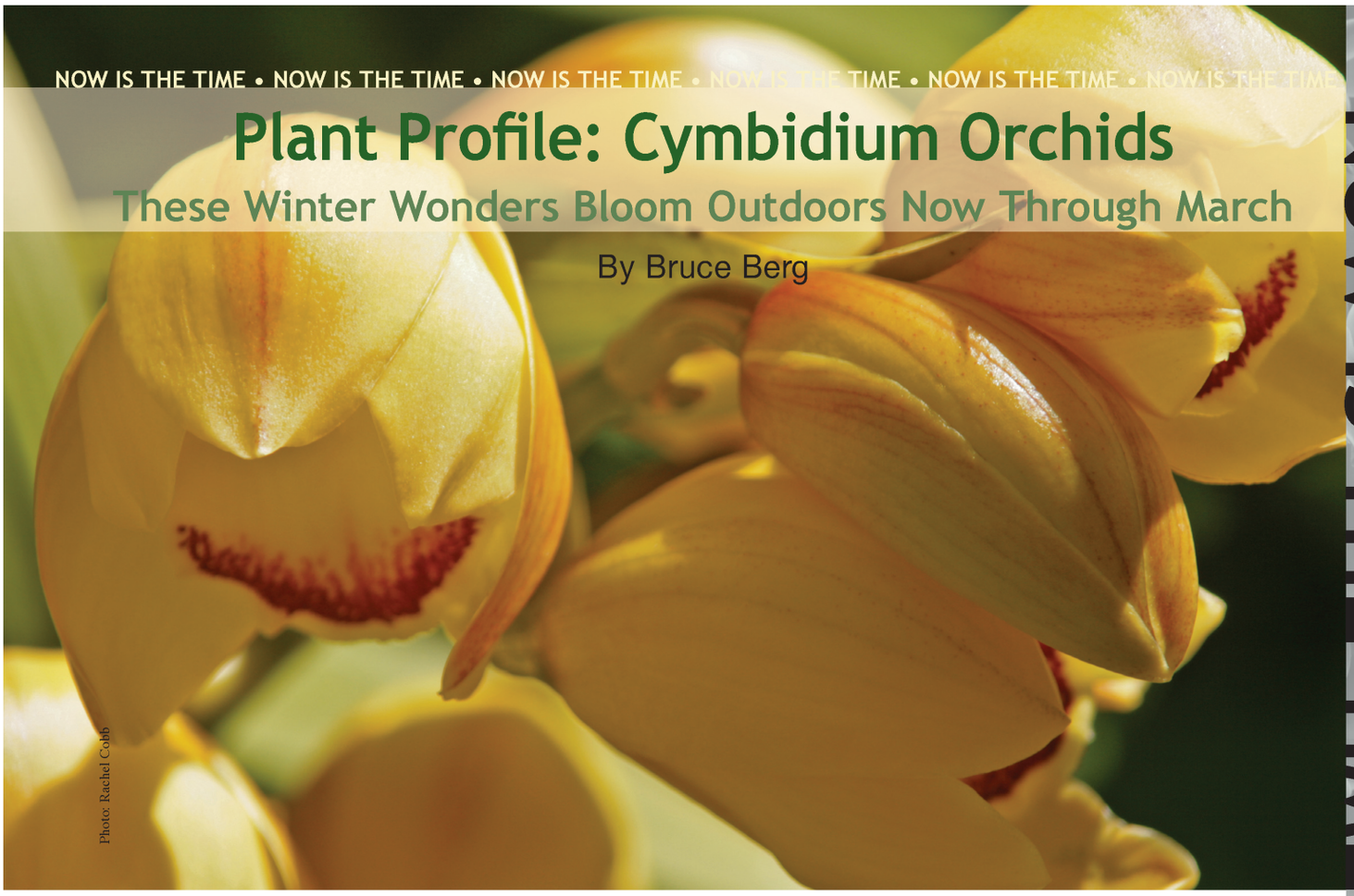


Photo: Rachel Cobb

When I look at orchids in bloom from December through March, some of the most spectacular are in my collection of Cymbidiums. What's even more impressive is that these beautiful plants are the easiest ones to care for at my home in East County.

Cymbidiums are native to the mountain ranges in Asia, India, Japan and Australia. Many of the almost 100 species grow in the ground, although there are some that grow in trees. Paintings of cymbidiums in cultivation have been identified back to the time of Confucius.

Cymbidiums like very bright light, although midday sunlight should be avoided in summer. In winter, these plants can take full sun all day long.

Insufficient light is the main reason these plants do not flower. When planting, place plants near the outer edge of a tree canopy. This position provides direct morning and afternoon sun, as well as mid-day shade during summer. Alternatively, place cymbidiums on an east or west facing patio.

Light green leaves indicate plants are getting ideal light. Dark green leaves indicate the location is too shady; yellow leaves tell you it is too bright. Cymbidiums should be protected from cold winter rains.

The active, growing season for cymbidiums is April through August. During this time, they need lots of water and fertilizer to get ready to bloom in the winter. Cymbidiums need to be kept moist, but not wet, so they need soil that is well-draining.

Cymbidiums can be grown in a number of ways and with different potting mixes. When cymbidiums were first grown in San Diego County, they were planted in the ground where there was good drainage. Today, most plants are grown in pots. Plastic pots are most commonly used because it makes transplanting easier.

Orchid potting mixes are readily available locally at nurseries or home and garden centers. Try to find a medium size bark mix. If that isn't available, go to a larger rather than smaller size bark.

Cymbidiums need to be repotted or they won't bloom as well and may split their container. A plant is ready to be repotted after it has completed blooming and pseudo bulbs (a thickened, bulblike stem above the ground) are crowding the edges of the pot.

More about Cymbidium culture is on the San Diego County Orchid Society's website, www.sdorchids.com. Mark your calendar for the Society's annual Orchid Show and Sale held March 9-11 at the Scottish Rite Center in Mission Valley. There will be informative talks and vendors selling orchids, including Cymbidiums.

Casa de las Orquideas located in Solana Beach has been recognized by the American Orchid Society as one of the best places to find new, interesting cymbidium hybrids. Although you need to call for an appointment, the owners, Loren and Nancy Batchman are always happy to share their orchids. Contact information is on their Web site at www.orquideas.com. – *Bruce Berg is president of San Diego County Orchid Society.*

New Year Garden Resolutions

Resolved: Provide More Winter Berries for the Birds

By Meredith French

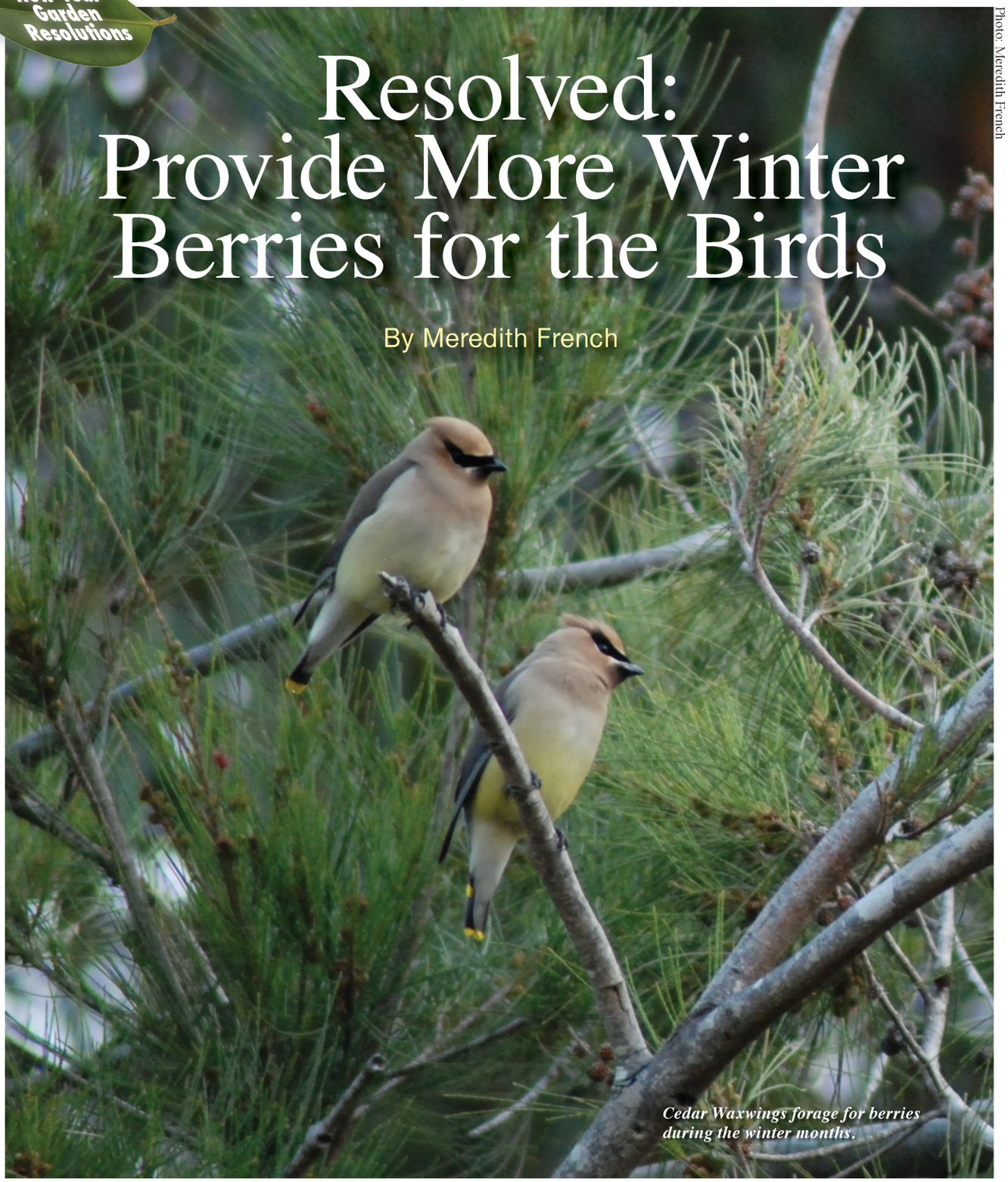


Photo: Meredith French

Cedar Waxwings forage for berries during the winter months.

As winter settles in, gardeners enjoy snack-filled evenings by a cozy fire, but birds must look far and wide for food until spring. To attract and sustain local and migratory birds, plant some choice shrubs that offer winter berries. Then next winter, you can watch birds munch in your yard.

Yes We Can Host Holly

Unfortunately, the most widely known holly, called Christmas holly or English holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) doesn't do well in our climate. However, there are several varieties we can grow with edible berries in the winter. There is one caveat for growing all hollies: To get the best results you need to plant a male and female plant.

The Wilson holly (*Ilex* x *altaclerensis* 'Wilsonii' or *I. wilsonii*) is especially handsome with profuse, red berries. This eight foot shrub tolerates most soils, and accepts our warm winters. Moreover, its leaves have fewer spines than some hollies, making it easier to plant and prune.

Burford holly (*Ilex cornuta* 'Burfordii') also has large red berries and does well in San Diego's climate. With green, glossy, somewhat prickly leaves, this holly makes an ideal evergreen barrier or a low-maintenance hedge.

Cotoneaster Options

Cotoneaster is a drought tolerant, evergreen shrub that comes in many sizes, from small trees to groundcovers. All varieties of cotoneaster produce ruby-red to orange-red winter berries. Their berries are offset by attractive grayish foliage. Cotoneasters are useful for dry slopes and require little maintenance. However, grow with caution because the California Invasive Plant Council has listed some of this genus as moderately invasive.

Several varieties grow into attractive fountain shapes with arching branches, like Franchet's cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster franchetii*). Nearly 10 feet tall, this variety has pinkish white flowers, and later, orange-red berries. Parney's or milkflower cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster lacteus*) offers leaves with white undersides topped by green. This variety grows 8 feet or taller and has long-lasting, red fruit.

There also are several species of horizontal cotoneaster, like rockspray cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster microphyllus*) and 'Emerald Carpet' willowleaf cotoneaster (*C. salicifolius* 'Emerald Carpet'). Both make attractive, drought tolerant, ground covers.

Fiery Pyracantha Choices

Another shrub with winter berries for birds is pyracantha or firethorn. This popular shrub sometimes gets confused with cotoneaster, because they both have orange to reddish winter berries. However, gardeners can distinguish pyracantha because its leaves are glossier and it has thorns. These two genuses are closely related, and they both look their best when given plenty of space to grow into their natural shape.

Scarlet firethorn (*Pyracantha coccinea)* grows eight feet tall and just as wide. The variety 'Lalandei' thrives in our climate, and has red-orange berries. For paler berries, try Chinese firethorn (*Pyracantha crenatoserrata*). This beauty can get 15 feet tall and is easy to train into an espalier.

For a horizontal pyracantha try 'Ruby Mound' for its bright red berries, 'Harlequin' for its variegated leaves or 'Mohave' for its abundant, long-lasting berries.

Nod to Natives

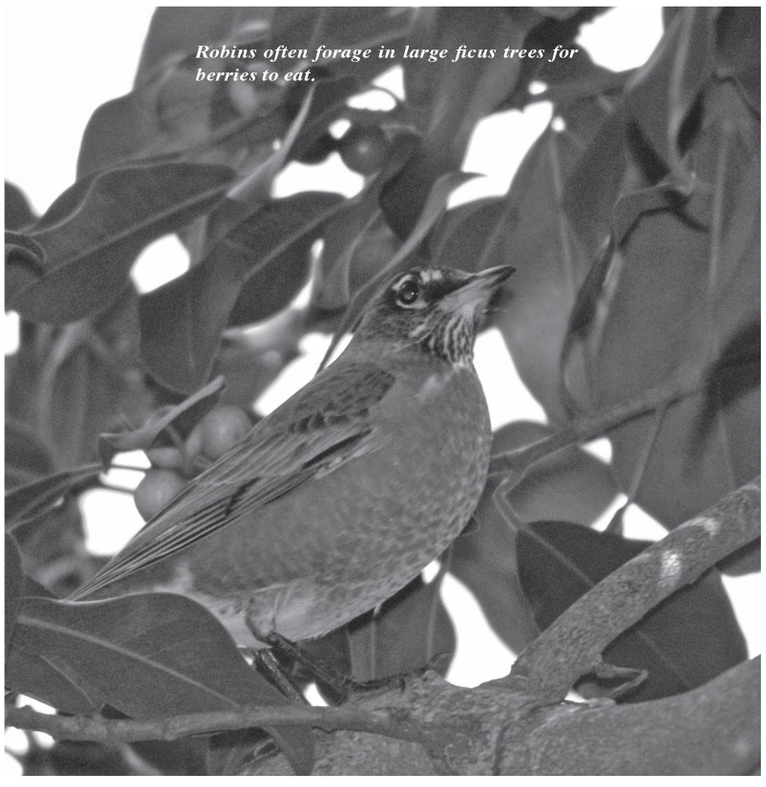
For native plant enthusiasts, there's the hardy toyon or California holly (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*). Toyon can grow to 25 feet with little attention, and it is attractive year around. Red berries develop from flat clusters of white flowers in October-November. Not only do birds love the berries, but bees love the flowers.

If you are planting sumac, use lemonade berry (*Rhus integrifolia*) for the coast and sugar bush (*Rhus ovata*) for inland gardens. Both of these sumacs can get to 10 feet tall and both prefer being planted on dry slopes with good drainage. Lemonade berry berries are bright red, and can be mashed to make a tart, refreshing drink. The fruits of the sugar bush have fine hairs and are coated with a sugary secretion that glistens in the sun like sugar. Additionally, lemonade berry and sugar bush are good choices for erosion control and they help retard canyon fires.

Another native ideal for hillsides is laurel sumac *(Rhus laurina*). This rapidly growing, highly aromatic plant produces a white winter berry. A cautionary note here – some suffer rashes from the sap of this species, so prune wearing gloves!

Pacific wax myrtle (*Myrica californica*) is a highly-desirable, native landscape plant for our area. It grows 30 feet in ideal conditions. The purplish, wax coated nutlets or berries are showy in the garden.

The handsome Oregon grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*) offers blue-black berries that can be turned into jam, if birds don't eat them first. In spring, clusters of yellow flowers sit between the holly-like, serrated leaves.



Robins often forage in large ficus trees for berries to eat.

Photo: Meredith French

Photo: Meredith French

Schefflera actinophylla

Some Unusual Choices

There are some seldom used shrubs that also have winter berries. One is Japanese aralia (*Fatsia japonica*). This shade-loving shrub grows to eight feet and has green berries that turn almost black as they ripen. Moreover, this shrub tolerates all types of soil, except soggy.

Another little known plant that produces winter berries is the fast-growing Queensland umbrella tree (*Schefflera actinophylla*). This Australian native needs well draining soil and plenty of space because it eventually gets to be 40 feet tall. Unusual-looking, tropical, white flowers appear in fall and they are followed by black fruit.

Surprisingly, the oft denigrated lantana has black-blue hued, bird attracting berries. To increase berry production after lantana is established, cut back on watering, and don't deadhead. Older varieties of lantana tend to be lanky, but they set a heavy crop of berries. New varieties have been bred to be sterile so the plants will bloom continuously. These don't have berries.

Photo: Meredith French

***Ficus* Berries**

Photo: Meredith French

***Ilex* Berries**

Photo: Meredith French

Evergreens with Bird Appeal

The very large genus of junipers (*Juniperus)* contains quite a few that do well in our climes and soils. Ranging from ground covers to tall columnar trees, they produce fleshy, berrylike fruits rather than cones like other conifers. Along the coast, they require little water but like mulch. None likes water logged soil.

Juniperus communis 'Effusa' is a popular one-foot high ground cover with striking aqua berries. Hollywood juniper (*Juniperus chinensis* 'Kaizuka' or 'Torolusa') has an unusual twisted appearance and can reach 10 feet tall. The berry is a favorite of cedar waxwings. If you ever have the fortune to spot a flock of these migrating through, consider yourself a very lucky person. They are extremely striking.

Cedar waxwings also will visit and forage for berries on large species of *Ficus* (*F. microphylla, F. rubiginosa*) as will robins during the lean months. In fact, if the berries have fermented, they will stick around until they can fly again. In the meantime, you can really enjoy their company. Get out your camera! They will be a main event in your winter garden.

– Meredith French is a professional photographer and Master Gardener.

San Diego Camellia Society
Invite you to attend our 2011–2012 Seasonal Events
Annual Camellia Show
Saturday 1p.m- 4p.m
Sunday 9a.m- 4p.m
February 4th & 5th, 2012
Plants for Sale Saturday & Sunday
Meeting With Tom Nuccio
February 15, 2012
7p.m, at our scheduled meeting
Come and listen to this world renown expert on camellia care and cultivation. View spectacular camellias from Nuccio's Nursery and learn to love this beautiful species of plant.
Scheduled Meetings
January 18, 2012
February 15, 2012
March 21, 2012
April 18, 2012
All meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month at 7pm, in Room 101 of the Casa Del Prado Building, in Balboa Park.

San Diego Floral Association
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Visit www.sdfloral.org

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San Diego Horticultural Society
Meetings 2nd Monday of each month

6 - 9 pm ❖ Exciting Meetings - Everyone Welcome!
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- ❖Lending library: books & videos
- ❖FREE ***monthly*** garden visits
- ❖Nursery discounts
- ❖Event discounts
- ❖and much more!

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Upcoming Meetings:

Jan. 9: Provocative Succulents
Join Scott Calhoun for a talk exploring the origins and contemporary uses of succulents in design to nutrition, ceremony and transcendence. Enjoy a short video on the perils and rewards of agave hunting. Members free, non-members $10.

Feb. 13: Trees of Ill Repute: Shifting From Maligned to Benign
Robin Rivet will explore how the urban forest impacts a city's sustainability. She will share some cool ecological evaluation tools, some lesser known trees, best urban forestry practices, and more. Members free, non-members $10.

Info: sdhortsoc.org or (619) 296-9215

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SDFA Calendar

A listing of the best gardening-related activities in the county for January/February 2012

January Events

JANUARY 3

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY
When: 6:30 p.m. Novice Meeting, Room 104;
7:30 p.m. General Meeting, Room 101
Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.sdorchids.com

JANUARY 4

CHIRP FOR GARDEN WILDLIFE, INC.
When: 6:30 p.m.
Where: Crown Hills Clubhouse, 1821 Victoria Park Terrace, Alpine
More information: 619-445-8352, www.chirp.org

SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB MEETING
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.thesandiegoherbclub.com

JANUARY 6

VISTA GARDEN CLUB
Unique container gardens will be discussed by Bette Childs and Joanie Espy.
When: 12:00 Noon
Where: McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace Dr., Vista
More information: www.vistagardenclub.org

JANUARY 8

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB
Lecture on bonsai by Fred Miyahara
When: 9:00 a.m. Classes; 10:30 a.m. Meeting
Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

JANUARY 9

PALOMAR DISTRICT'S FLORAL DESIGN FORUM
"Flower Power"
When: 12:30 p.m.
Where: Joslyn Senior Center, 210 Park Avenue, Escondido
More information: www.californiagardenclubs.com/palomardistrict;
https://sites.google.com/site/pdclubs/projects-programs/floral-design-forum

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING
Scott Calhoun will speak on *Provocative Succulents*.
When: 6:00 p.m.
Where: Surfside Race Place, Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar
More information: www.sdhortsoc.org

JANUARY 10

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB
"Renovating Our Landscapes Based On Maintenance We Desire To Do and Plants that Work Together" by Susan Moore, owner of Earth Design.
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: St. Stephen Catholic Church, 31020 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center
More information: www.dosvallesgardenclub.org

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY MEETING
Bring a friend to our New Year Rummage Sale.
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 858-472-0540, http://www.sdgeranium.org/

■ FOUR DAYS

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, SAN DIEGO
Conservation Conference 2012
When: January 10–14, 8:00 a.m.– 9:00 p.m.
Where: Town & Country Resort, 500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego
More information: www.cnps.org/cnps/conservation/conference/2012

JANUARY 11

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Join us to enjoy this year's scholarship recipients and the White Elephant sale.
When: 9:30 a.m. Hospitality; 10:00 a.m. Meeting
Where: Bonita-Sunnyside Library, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita
More information: Darlene Montgomery, 619-267-1585, dmontg@live.com

POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Floral design instructor Diane Citrowske will share her expertise.
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego
More information: www.plgc.org

RAMONA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 12:00 Noon
Where: Ramona Woman's Club, 524 Main St., Ramona
More information: www.ramonagardenclub.com

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.epiphyllum.com

JANUARY 14

SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY MEETING
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY MEETING
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.sdcss.net

JANUARY 16

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.sdrosesociety.org

JANUARY 17

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101 or 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 760-434-5033, www.cnpssd.org

CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY MEETING
Methods of watering and how to mix your own soils.
When: 10:30 a.m.
Where: Vista Library, 700 Eucalyptus Avenue, Vista
More information: 760-295-0484

LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: La Jolla Lutheran Church, 7117 La Jolla Blvd., La Jolla
More information: Anne Caprioglio, 858-454-6227

RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Varies, call for location
More information: Connie Beck, 619-749-4059

JANUARY 18

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY
When: 7:00 p.m. Social; 7:30 p.m. General Meeting
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: Dean Turney, 760-942-1919

JANUARY 19

BERNARDO GARDENERS MEETING
Connie Beck will discuss the holistic garden.
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: Oaks North Community Center, 12578 Oaks North Dr., Rancho Bernardo
More information: www.bernardogardeners.org

SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.sandiegofernsociety.com

JANUARY 21

MIRACOSTA HORTICULTURE CLUB OF OCEANSIDE MEETING
Mo Price will discuss drought tolerant plants suitable for our Mediterranean climate.
When: 12:45 p.m.
Where: MiraCosta College, Student Center, Bldg. 3400
More information: http://miracostahc.org

JANUARY 23

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB OF CORONADO
When: 9:00 a.m.
Where: Winn Room, Coronado Library, 640 Orange Ave., Coronado
More information: 619-575-0470

JANUARY 24

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 858-672-259**3**

JANUARY 25

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS, S. D. CHAPTER
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.crfgsandiego.org

IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119 OF SAN DIEGO
"Bamboo: A Grass for All Seasons" with Master Gardener Suzie Heap.
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: Keiko Schneider, 858-759-2640, www.ikebanasandiego.org

JANUARY 26

CROWN GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 9:00 a.m. Social; 9:30 a.m. Meeting
Where: The Winn Room, Coronado Library, 6400 Orange Ave., Coronado
More information: www.crowngardenclub.com

VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA MEETING
Nancy Goslee Power will present "The Power of Gardens," a discussion of landscape design.
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Torrey Pines Christian Church, 8320 La Jolla Scenic Dr. North, La Jolla
More information: 858-454-4117, www.villagegardencluboflajolla.com

JANUARY 28

PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
When: 12:00 Noon
Where: Joslyn Senior Center, 210 E. Park Ave., Escondido
More information: 760-741-7553

JANUARY 30

CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC./PALOMAR DISTRICT
Winter Board & Annual Membership Meeting
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Viejas Casino Dream Catcher Lounge, 5000 Willows Rd., Alpine
More information: https://sites.google.com/site/pdclubs

February Events

FEBRUARY 1

CHIRP FOR GARDEN WILDLIFE, INC. MEETING
When: 6:30 p.m.
Where: Crown Hills Clubhouse, 1821 Victoria Park Terrace, Alpine
More information: 619-445-8352, www.chirp.org

SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB MEETING
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.thesandiegoherbclub.com

FEBRUARY 3

VISTA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids will speak about growing the best orchids.
When: 12:00 Noon
Where: McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace Dr., Vista
More information: www.vistagardenclub.org

FEBRUARY 6

PALOMAR DISTRICT'S FLORAL DESIGN FORUM
When: 12:30 p.m.
Where: Joslyn Senior Center, 210 Park Avenue, Escondido
More information: https://sites.google.com/site/pdclubs/projects-programs/floral-design-forum

FEBRUARY 7

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING
When: 6:30 p.m. Novice Meeting, Room 104; 7:30 p.m. General Meeting, Room 101
Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.sdorchids.com

FEBRUARY 8

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Annual Tea and Fashion Show
When: 9:30 a.m. Hospitality; 10:00 a.m. Meeting
Where: Bonita-Sunnyside Library, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita
More information: Darlene Montgomery, 619-267-1585, dmontg@live.com

POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Tom Jesch of Waterwise Botanicals (formerly Daylily Hill)
will address the group.
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego
More information: www.plgc.org

RAMONA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 12:00 Noon
Where: Ramona Woman's Club, 524 Main St., Ramona
More information: www.ramonagardenclub.com

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.epiphyllum.com

FEBRUARY 11

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY MEETING
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.sdcss.net

MIRACOSTA HORTICULTURE CLUB OF OCEANSIDE MEETING
"The Benefit of Bees in Your Garden" with Diane Busch.
When: 12:45 p.m.
Where: MiraCosta College, Aztlan Room, 2nd floor,
Student Union Building (3400)
More information: http://miracostahc.org/

FEBRUARY 12

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC. MEETING
Lecturer: Michael Sykes
When: 9:00 a.m. Classes; 10:30 a.m. Meeting
Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY MEETING
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: War Memorial Bldg., 3325 Zoon Drive, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.socalplumeriasociety.com

FEBRUARY 13

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING
Robin Rivet will discuss "Trees of Ill Repute: Shifting From Maligned
to Benign."
When: 6:00 p.m.
Where: Surfside Race Place, Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar
More information: www.sdhortsoc.org

FEBRUARY 14

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB MEETING
"Palms: Forget the Washington & Queen Palms" presented by Don Martin.
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: St. Stephen Catholic Church, 31020 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center
More information: www.dosvallesgardenclub.org

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 858-472-0540, www.sdgeranium.org

FEBRUARY 15

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY
When: 7:00 p.m. Social; 7:30 p.m. General Meeting
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: Dean Turney, 760-942-1919

FEBRUARY 16

BERNARDO GARDENERS DAY TRIP
Join us for a guided tour of the Kimberly Crest House and Gardens.
When: 9:00 a.m.
Where: Oaks North Community Center, 12578 Oaks North Drive, Rancho Bernardo
More information: www.bernardogardeners.org

SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.sandiegofernsociety.com

FEBRUARY 20

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.sdrosesociety.org

FEBRUARY 21

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
Author Matt Ritter discusses California's most fascinating trees.
When: 6:00 p.m. catered dinner; 7:00 p.m. talk
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
Information: 619-232-5762; www.sdfloral.org.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101 or 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 760-434-5033, www.cnpssd.org

CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY MEETING
View a power point presentation of show plants.
When: 10:30 a.m.
Where: Vista Library, 700 Eucalyptus Avenue, Vista
More information: 760-295-0484

LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: La Jolla Lutheran Church, 7117 La Jolla Blvd., La Jolla
More information: Anne Caprioglio, 858-454-6227

RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Varies, call for location
More information: Connie Beck, 619-749-4059

FEBRUARY 22

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: www.crfgsandiego.org

IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119 OF SAN DIEGO
A demonstration from the Ohara School with Grand Master Akiko Bourland.
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: Keiko Schneider, 858-759-2640, www.ikebanasandiego.org

FEBRUARY 23

CROWN GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 9:00 a.m. Social; 9:30 a.m. Meeting
Where: The Winn Room, Coronado Library, 6400 Orange Avenue, Coronado
More information: www.crowngardenclub.com

VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA MEETING
A members only program on photography will be presented by Allen Rokach in *The Passionate Gardener*.
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Torrey Pines Christian Church, 8320 La Jolla Scenic Dr. North, La Jolla
More information: 858-454-4117, www.villagegardencluboflajolla.com

FEBRUARY 25

PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY MEETING
When: 12:00 Noon
Where: Joslyn Senior Center, 210 E. Park Ave., Escondido
More information: 760-741-7553

FEBRUARY 27

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB OF CORONADO
When: 9:00 a.m.
Where: Winn Room, Coronado Library, 640 Orange Ave., Coronado
More information: 619-575-0470

FEBRUARY 28

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 858-672-2593

Gardening Classes

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, PT. LOMA GARDENING CLASS
Learn a variety of gardening tricks every Saturday morning by attending a free class at Walter Andersen Nursery's Pt. Loma Nursery. Please contact the store for a schedule of events.
When: 9:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m. every Saturday
Where: Walter Andersen's Pt. Loma, 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego
More Information: www.walterandersen.com

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, POWAY GARDENING CLASS
Come join others at Walter Andersen's Poway store for a free, weekly seasonal garden lecture. Please contact the store for a schedule of events.
When: 9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m. every Saturday
Where: Walter Andersen's Poway, 12755 Danielson Court, Poway
More Information: www.walterandersen.com

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN CLASSES
The Water Conservation Garden provides a number of entertaining, information-packed courses covering the most topical gardening topics and presented by skilled and knowledgeable experts. Please contact the Water Conservation Garden for program details and any applicable fees.
When: Contact for program-specific times.
Where: 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon
More Information: www.thegarden.org, 619-660-0614, x10

Walks, Tours & Garden Events

SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN TOUR
Come and meet up at the Visitor's Center for a weekly tour of the San Diego Botanic Garden. No reservations required. Free with admission.
When: 10:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m. every Saturday
Where: 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas
More Information: www.sdbgarden.org

SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN: CHILDREN'S EVENTS
The Hamilton Children's Garden offers a number of events specially designed to entertain and educate children and their caregivers.
Please contact San Diego Botanic Garden for a complete listing of their scheduled events.
When: Ongoing—contact for specific times.
Where: 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas
More Information: www.sdbgarden.org

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN TOUR
Enjoy a docent-led tour of the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College.
When: 10:30 a.m. every Saturday; 1:30 p.m. every Sunday
Where: 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon
More Information: www.thegarden.org

CNPS NATIVE PLANT WALK
Join landscape architect and member of the CNPS San Diego Chapter Kay Stewart for a two-hour, easy walk into Tecolote Canyon and back. Along the way you'll study and learn about the plants. This guided walk is free, but may be canceled due to inclement weather or poor trail conditions.
When: 9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m. first Sunday of the month
Where: Tecolote Canyon Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road, San Diego
More Information: 858-581-9959; www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/parks/teclte.shtml

SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND GARDEN
Come visit the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum's exquisite Asian garden.
When: 10:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; 12:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. Sunday
Where: San Diego Chinese Historical Museum and Garden, 404 3rd Ave., San Diego
More Information: www.sdchm.org/garden

Balboa Park Events

SAN DIEGO ZOO
Visit the world famous San Diego Zoo for Plant Days and Orchid Odyssey.
When: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., third Friday of each month
Where: San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive, Balboa Park, San Diego
More Information: www.sandiegozoo.com

SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN
Enhance your well-being with a visit to this Japanese-style garden. There is a $4 fee for adults, $2.50 fee for Seniors (55+), children and military with I.D.
When: 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday
Where: San Diego Japanese Friendship Garden, 2215 Pan American Road, Balboa Park, San Diego
More Information: www.niwa.org

BALBOA PARK OFFSHOOT TOURS
Learn about Balboa Park's plants as volunteer horticulturists lead visitors on free, one-hour themed walks. (Inclement weather and low-turnout cancels the tour.)
When: 10:00 a.m. every Saturday
Where: Balboa Park Visitor Center, 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More Information: www.balboapark.org

BALBOA PARK INTERPRETIVE WALKS
Join volunteer-guides on this free, history-oriented walk through Balboa Park.
When: 1:00 p.m. every Tuesday
Where: Balboa Park Visitor Center, 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More Information: www.balboapark.org

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM CANYONEER WALKS
Join trained volunteer guides on a local canyon walks. There is a $2 fee.
When: Times vary; check website for specific event details
Where: Locations vary; check website for specific event details
More Information: www.sdnhm.org/canyoneers

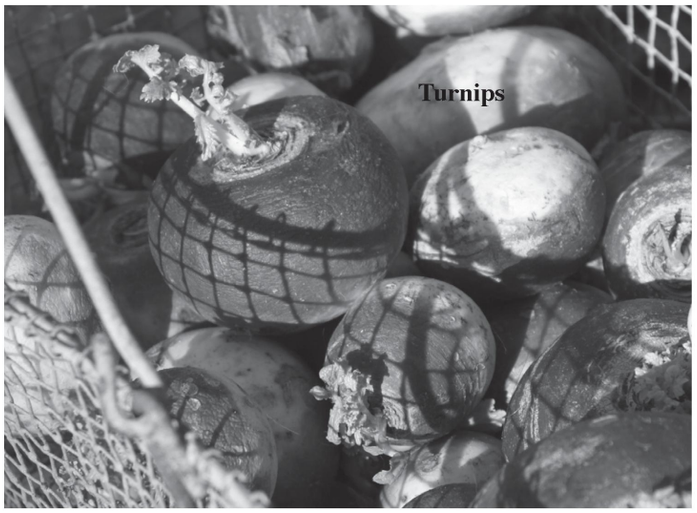

Photo: Rachel Cobb

In Season

Here are some items that you may find being sold from the stalls at your local Farmers' Market in January and February. For more information on San Diego County Farmers' Markets, visit www.sdfarmbureau.org.

January: Beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, chard, cherimoyas, grapefruit, guavas, herbs, kale, kiwi, kumquats, lemons, lettuce, limes, macadamia nuts, navel oranges, peas, potatoes, radishes, rhubarb, snap peas, spinach, squash, tangelos, tangerines, turnips and various cut flowers.

February: Artichokes, asparagus, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, chard, cherimoyas, grapefruit, guavas, herbs, kale, kiwi, kumquats, lemons, lettuce, limes, navel oranges, peas, potatoes, radishes, rhubarb, snap peas, spinach, squash, strawberries, tangelos, tangerines, turnips and various cut flowers.

Contact Us! Do you have an event, class or meeting that you'd like to let California Garden readers know about? If so, please email sdfloral@gmail.com or Denise Thompson at EarthD@san.rr.com with your group's name, the meeting date and time, meeting place, any applicable fees, event program and contact information. You may also submit the above information via regular mail, sent to Calendar Editor, San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado Room 105, San Diego CA 92101. Space is limited, so please get in touch today to ensure inclusion! The deadline for the upcoming March/April 2012 issue is January 10, 2012; the deadline for the May/June 2012 issue is March 10, 2012.

California Garden Executive Editor Mary James Honored

The San Diego Floral Association salutes Mary James. Her feature story "Naturally Native" published in *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* won first place for garden writing in the 38th Annual Excellence in Journalism Awards presented by the San Diego Press Club. James is beginning her third year as the executive editor of *California Garden*, a volunteer position. –*Nancy Carol Carter*

MOVING?
Please let us know.

Help us keep membership costs down by informing us of your new address promptly. Fax it to us at 619-232-5762 or mail it to: SDFA, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684. Changes of address can also be submitted by email to *membership@sdfloral.org*.

E-MAIL ADDRESS REQUEST

Presently the SDFA is distributing its newsletter through the US mail. This distribution has become very costly to our organization. Please help to reduce the cost of newsletter distribution by sending us your e-mail address so that you can receive the newsletter via email.
Please forward your email address to:
vp.membership@gmail.com

THE URBAN SEED
home & garden
MICHAEL BLISS
MAURICE TAITANO
2754 Calhoun St.
San Diego, CA 92110
619-584-7768

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Garden Center and Library – Founded in 1907
1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684, 619-232-5762. Located in Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park
Under the sponsorship of the Park & Recreation Department, City of San Diego, California

Mission Statement: To promote the knowledge and appreciation of horticulture and floriculture in the San Diego region.

OBJECTIVES

1. To educate and encourage regional gardeners through lectures, classes, publications, scholarships and library resources.
2. To promote the use of regionally appropriate plants and gardening techniques, including natives and Mediterranean climate adapted plants.
3. To encourage, educate, and support floral design activities for personal and public display.
4. To advise and encourage leaders and the community in conservation and beautification of public and private spaces. To network and support plant-interested groups and societies

GENERAL MEETINGS 2012

February 21
April 18
June 19

Dates are tentative. Please check the Web site, www.sdfloral.org, to confirm.

Casa del Prado, Room 101
Balboa Park, San Diego

OFFICERS

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Sandra Dysart

Vice President (Programs)
Christie Wright

Vice President (Membership)
Lucy Kramer

Treasurer
Nancy Carol Carter

Recording Secretary
Barbara Clark

Corresponding Secretary
Cheryl Gaidmore

Historian
Diane Maher

Parliamentarian
Barbara Clark

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Thea Gurns
Suzanne Sorger

2011-2013
Meredith French
Bonnie Gebhardt
Sondi Arndt

2012- 2014
Dixie Hansen
Louise Guarnotta
Maryellene Deason

Arrangers Guild Liaison
Sharon Lowry

2012 SDFA AFFILIATES

CHIRP FOR GARDEN WILDLIFE, INC.
Exec. Director: Maureen Austin
President: Lisa Lomax
P. O. Box 532
Alpine, CA 91903-0532
619-445-8352
www.chirp.org

FRIENDS OF BALBOA PARK
2125 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92101
619-232-2282
www.friendsofbalboapark.org

PALOMAR DISTRICT CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
Director: George Speer
30861 Saddleback Rd.
Valley Center, CA 92082-3848
760-749-9608
palomardirector@gmail.com
http://californiagardenclubs.com/palomardistrict

SAN DIEGO BOTANICAL GARDEN FOUNDATION
President: David Tooley
1650 El Prado Rm #104
San Diego, CA 92101-1684
619-234-8901
www.sdbgf.org

SAN DIEGO ZOO
Horticulture Department
P. O. Box 120551
San Diego, CA 92112-0551
619-231-1515 Ext. 4298
www.sandiegozoo.org

SERRA MESA BRANCH LIBRARY
9005 Aero Drive
San Diego, CA 92123-2312
858-573-1396

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN
Executive Director: Marty Eberhardt
12122 Cuyamaca College Dr. West
El Cajon, CA 92019-4317
619-660-0614
info@thegarden.org
www.thegarden.org

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES:

GRANGETTO'S FARM AND GARDEN SUPPLY
P. O. Box 463095
Escondido, CA 92046-3095
760-745-4671
www.grangettos.com

JIM STELLUTI CONSULTING LANDSCAPE ARTIST
1928 Madison Ave.
San Diego, CA 92116-2722
619-298-7641

TRINITY FLOWERS
Sam Chiem
San Diego, CA
858-699-1305
TrinityFlowers@gmail.com
http://TrinityFlowersOnline.com

GARDEN CLUBS:

BERNARDO GARDENERS
President: Liliane Dickinson
15165 Susita Street
San Diego, CA 92129-1232
858-672-2454
www.bernardogardeners.org

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
President: Lynne Batchelor
3860 Grandview Place
Bonita, CA 91902-1028
619-267-3871

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB
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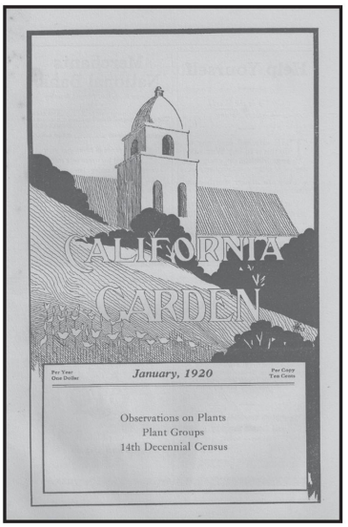
From The Archives of California Garden

This unsigned editorial is probably attributable to long-time *California Garden* editor Alfred D. Robinson. His guidance on meaningful resolutions for a new year, though written more than 90 years ago, remains fresh and insightful. Robinson references San Diego's historic lack of a direct eastern rail connection which had frustrated local business growth and hindered port development. November 1919 was a turning point with the completion of the San Diego & Arizona Railway, first conceived in 1906 but delayed by engineering challenges, natural disasters and World War I. *–Nancy Carol Carter*

January 1920

New Year's Resolutions



A New Year has come again, and we have as usual made many resolutions, some of which we may keep. There are, however, some resolutions we can make and keep. We can resolve to grow more garden, vegetable or ornamental or both; we can resolve to encourage our friends and neighbors to do likewise. We can resolve to interest ourselves in an active way in civic beautification—street tree planting, waterfront and park improvement, etc.

San Diego has the railroad facilities she has waited half a lifetime for, and an era of larger prosperity is dawning—probably larger than many of us can realize. We never yet saw a perfectly good harbor go to waste—if it was fed by railroads. San Diego has become an important shipping port, is to and will take its place as one of the busy marts of the world.

But this is not all that is necessary to make up a great city. If there is large industry there must obviously be homes a plenty, and in a large measure the progressiveness of this city will be measured by the surroundings of those homes—whether or not the yards are attractively planted, whether or not the streets are lined with suitable trees. Children are to be brought up in whatever environment we furnish for them, and the caliber of the following generations will depend to a considerable degree upon what that environment is. So while we are resoluting let's consider some of these things.

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